



St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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 Editor: Jo Klein

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

## Parish Times July 2009



*Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.*

Matthew 7:7-8

Jesus invites us to pray. Jesus invites us to talk with him and listen to him through prayer. This is part of the deep relationship we have with God. It is also our privilege to pray knowing that the Creator of all listens to us and speaks to us through prayer.

I am calling on each of us to answer Jesus' call to pray. Specifically, I would like each one of you to pray for St. Luke. Pray that we may *listen* to God's leading and follow the path that the Holy Spirit is directing us to take. Pray that as a church, we will constantly be open to God's leading. For when we are open to God's leading and follow God's way, there is *nothing* we cannot do. As Paul wrote, we can do all things in Christ who strengthens us. Indeed, our greatest strength is to be a praying church, opening our hearts and minds to God in order to better follow in God's way. So please join me in praying for St. Luke, that we may have our hearts and minds fixed on God, through whom we can do all things.

See you in worship,  
 Pr. Dave

### St. Luke Lawn Church Service!



**This summer we will have three outdoor worships on our church lawn on the following Sundays: July 26 and August 16. Bring lawn chairs or blankets or use a chair provided by church. After the outdoor worship we will have games for the kids as well as treats, so come one, come all!**



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for June:  
 Ken McGrew, Joan Wilson, Jeff Kingsley and Julie Ellingson.



July Readers:  
 5: Joyce Bluel  
 12: Wendy Bjorklund  
 19: Al Baird  
 26: Megan Jefferson



We invite all children, preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, to participate in our Vacation Bible School program, SonRock Kid Camp, July 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

There will be music, games, crafts, snacks and Bible stories—all the things that make VBS so fun and meaningful. To enroll, or to volunteer to help, please call 651-698-9443 and provide your contact info. Thanks!



Ladies Night Out for June will be at Degidio's on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street in St. Paul. The date will be Tuesday, July 21st 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, July 12th so reservations can be made.

Many thanks to the following for delivering Meals on Wheels for the month of May: Al Baird, Ann Verschoyle, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Audrey Rongstad, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Ralph and Ruth Wassmann, David Elliott and Jane McGrew.



### Youth Canoe Trip!

A canoe trip for youth in the BWCA is set for August 20-24. We will enter the BWCA at the Sawbill entry point on Thursday, August 20, canoeing, camping, swimming, fishing for four days. If you would like to go, sign up on the kiosk today! The cost will be approximately \$70.00 per person. If you have any questions, ask Pr. Dave.



### Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for June: Eva Mac Niven, Max Elliott, Carl Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson and Katy Eggert. Our ushers for July will be: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Peter Klein, Audrey McNamara, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird.



**Come! Join us for...**  
 •fellowship •refreshments  
 •music •board games  
 at

### St. Luke Coffee House

Open to all!  
 Fourth Friday of every month  
 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

All ages welcome...children's area provided  
 Just drop in!

**We'll see YOU July 24!**



## Spotlight on... Robyn Rongstad

St. Luke has always been my home. My parents, LeRoy and Audrey, were already members here before I was born; they were married in the "old" church. I was born on the day they broke ground for the "new" church.

My brother Cory, sister Tracy and I grew up down the street, went to Homecroft across the street and to Highland Park up the hill. I attended St. Paul College downtown, studying accounting. My first full time job was working for public television. I worked there for 19 years until I was laid off, and then worked temp jobs until I found my current job in New Brighton. I keep track of utility poles for a company that is celebrating its 100-year anniversary this year. If you are at all familiar with New Brighton, you know where Bell Lumber and Pole is located. We have about 14,500 utility poles currently sitting in our yard...people tend to notice that.

I have always lived within the metro area and cannot imagine living outside of Minnesota. I like the change of seasons. In particular, fall means the start of hockey season! During hockey season you can find me at the "X" downtown watching the Wild play. I have been a season ticket holder since day one. I would like to travel to all of the NHL cities to see games in each of the different arenas. I am up to two so far. I guess I have a ways to go!

This year will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first time my family attended family camp at Camp Onomia. The camp has been a very big part of my life. I served on the board for four years and am currently helping with their quilt auction. I have many friends from camp that I only see one week out of the years, but I consider them close friends.

I also enjoy baking, (especially Christmas cookies), crafting, reading and going to movies. When I am not doing all of those things I am at home in Vadnais Height with my cats. When I retire I guess I will work more on those NHL cities.



### July Birthdays

- 8 - JOYCE BLUEL
- 9 - NANCY MCGOUGH
- 10 - CYNDY STADEM
- 13 - JASON GROM
- 14 - AL BAIRD
- 15 - DOUG WASKO
- 16 - WENDY BJORKLUND
- 18 - DICK HOLTZ
- 20 - PETER KLEIN, DALLAS ERICKSON
- 23 - JO KLEIN
- 26 - JILL BURCHILL
- 27 - RICH MILLER, ERICK ERICKSON
- 28 - DAN GRZYWINSKI
- 30 - JASON WOODFORD



### July Anniversaries

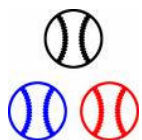
- 6 - KEVIN AND MARYJO BRANDT: 1991
- 7 - JEFF AND MARY FAUST
- 10 - AUDREY AND LEROY RONGSTAD: 1953
- 19 - RICHARD AND PAULA SILTBERG: 1975
- 22 - GWEN AND RICHARD COATES: 1961



Keep Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup> evening open for our first ever St. Luke block party, as a part of National Night Out. More details to follow in the next newsletter and future bulletins. Anyone wishing to help with planning, please contact Julie Gaarder at 651-690-0117 or [tjgaarder@comcast.net](mailto:tjgaarder@comcast.net)

**Play Ball!** Welcome back for another summer of fun and fellowship! Below is the schedule for the 2009 softball season.

I am looking forward to starting a new season in July. Please contact me if you have any questions. My home number is 651-699-0499 or you can email Nancy at [nhegdahl@tchdc.org](mailto:nhegdahl@tchdc.org).  
-Mike Hegdahl



### July 12

Field 1 – 5:30 – St. Luke vs. St. Peder’s

Field 2 – 5:30 – Pilgrim vs. Immanuel

Field 1 – 6:30 – St. Mark vs. Plymouth

### July 19

Field 1 – 5:30 – St. Peder’s vs. Immanuel

Field 2 – 5:30 – Plymouth vs. Pilgrim

Field 1 – 6:30 – St. Mark vs. St. Luke

### July 26

Field 1 – 5:30 – Pilgrim vs. St. Mark

Field 2 – 5:30 – Plymouth vs. St. Peder’s

Field 1 – 6:30 – St. Luke vs. Immanuel

### August 2

Field 1 – 5:30 – St. Peder’s vs. St. Mark

Field 2 – 5:30 – St. Luke vs. Pilgrim

Field 1 – 6:30 – Immanuel vs. Plymouth

### August 9

Field 1 – 5:30 – Plymouth vs. St. Luke

Field 2 – 5:30 – Immanuel vs. St. Mark

Field 1 – 6:30 – St. Peder’s vs. Pilgrim

### August 16

Field 1 – 5:30 – St. Peder’s vs. Plymouth

Field 2 – 5:30 – Pilgrim vs. Immanuel

Field 1 – 6:30 – St. Luke vs. St. Mark



### **Fall Bazaar Update – Joyce Bluel, Committee Chair**

We are looking for people who would be willing to make crafts once again for the Fall Bazaar. If you have any ideas for group projects that could be worked on either after worship on Sunday or some night during the week, please let me know. Participation is open to anyone; no experience is needed.

Just a reminder, the Fall Bazaar is just 17 weeks away; mark your calendars for Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds from this event have been used to make some substantial changes both to our church building and to people’s lives through donations to charities. This event is an excellent community outreach opportunity, giving our neighbors a chance to get to know us better. There is something for everyone to get involved with, just contact one of the following chairs:

#### White Elephant Co-chairs:

Jo Klein and David Elliott

#### Bake Sale Chair:

Audrey McNamara

#### Publicity Chair:

Carol Vigdal

#### Kitchen Chair:

Sandi Gordon

#### Kiddie Room Co-chairs:

Barb Jensen and Alex Grzywinski

#### Raffle Chair:

*Still looking for a volunteer to head this committee*

#### Crafts Co-chairs:

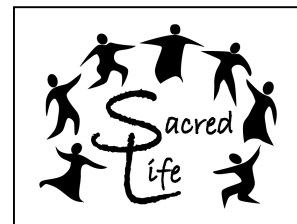
Margaret Vigdal and Joyce Bluel

**This is our Silver Anniversary of the Fall Bazaar (25 years); let’s make it the best one ever!**

### **Sacred Life - Tuesday Evening Worship**

As mentioned in last month’s newsletter we have now begun a new Tuesday evening worship service at 6:30. We are calling it “Sacred Life.” The main purpose is twofold. First, it is a way of reaching out to people who do not find traditional worship meaningful or inviting. Secondly, it will provide an additional service for St. Luke members who, for whatever reason, could not attend Sunday’s worship. It is a very informal worship that meets in the library.

We sit in a circle of chairs, have a very simple liturgy and use the Bible readings and sermon from the previous Sunday. So please come and check it out. Please also let friends know of this new worship service!



It's June 15, and we've just had a perfect weekend in Minnesota weather. It's the weekend called "re-enlist." Everyone gets outside, feels the warm sun on their face, sees the flowers blooming, totally forgets the winter and thinks, "Yup, Minnesota is a great place to live!" I re-enlisted again to live in Minnesota at least one more year! Hope you re-enlist too! I hope you keep a calendar and pencil handy after church on Sundays because things are happening here at St. Luke. Summer weekday services so the cabinites/weekend workers can still worship with us during the week. Prayer Shawl Ministry had 8 volunteers to make shawls! Wow! Social hour crafting is our newest group effort. Our new coffee house night will premier June 26. Our kids will be going to Montana for their first work group camp this summer. A book club is starting up July 23; see separate article in this issue. Vacation Bible School is revving up, July 27-31. Our Micro Lending group is spreading possibilities all over the world. St. Luke will sponsor the National Night Out this year on August 4 for Field Avenue neighbors (and everyone else). It's a busy beehive we've got going and it all happens because you are willing to be a part of the church family events. Thank you to all the "starters" who are giving us all these opportunities to share the fun. Thanks to our members who keep trying new opportunities and supporting the established events. God is great, life is good, and every chance I get I re-enlist to stay in the St. Luke church family. Hope you will too!!



**President's  
Blog  
July 2009**



**Group  
WorkCamp**

On Friday, July 10 our youth will be departing St. Luke bound for a workcamp in Ashland, Montana where they will join approximately 450 youth from across the nation in fixing up about 60-70 homes. Kyle Zvejnieks and I will lead Michael Ardnt, Sam Elliott, Connel McGough, Abby Klein, Peter Klein and Katie Bost to the workcamp. On the way to the workcamp we will visit the Black Hills, be treated to dinner by Shantel Zvejniek's grandmother and stay overnight at Shantel's home church in Spearfish, South Dakota. The workcamp begins on Sunday, July 12, ending on Saturday, July 18. While at the workcamp we will stay in a school, sleeping on the classroom floors (with air mattresses and sleeping bags), eat in the cafeteria, work on homes in the general area, attend some great programs as well as have some fun. We will arrive back at St. Luke on the afternoon of Sunday, July 19. Thank you so much for your generous support of this trip. Please keep us in your prayers! --Pr. Dave

Highlights of the June 8, 2009 council meeting:

- Sacred Life services will begin Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. This will be an informal service. Pastor will distribute pamphlets through the neighborhood and to businesses inviting those that are interested.
- Alex Gryzwinski has offered to take on Jo Klein's Sunday School planning responsibilities. Wendy Bjorklund has offered to assist him for the next year. Thanks to both of you!
- St. Luke will be participating in National Night Out on August 4<sup>th</sup>. This should be a night of fun and food with a Sacred Life Service also. Come and join the fun and if you can, let us know if you would like to help plan it!
- The council will be purchasing two additional hearing aid receivers. We seem to have an adequate supply of ear buds at this time.

Remember: The church council meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30. All are welcome!







The hymns and songs we sing on Sundays give us an opportunity to express our faith in a deep and personal way. The poet's words can pique our thoughts and give us fresh understanding about God's love and grace while our voices rise and fall in tunes and harmonies that resonate deeply into our souls. Singing is powerful stuff.

The Worship and Music Commission takes the responsibility for selecting worship music seriously and proudly does it well. To make the process more meaningful and enjoyable, the commission is asking volunteers to prep the first round of worship hymns before each meeting. How? We'll give packets to volunteers that include the scriptural and thematic information for a given Sunday before the meeting. After reading and studying the texts for the day, volunteers find 6 to 8 different hymns that fit the theme of the scripture for that day and bring them to the next commission meeting where the group makes the final choices.

We are looking forward to this change. This preparation will move these meetings along and will give volunteers an opportunity to dig into the Word.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Kingsley or Conie. Packets for the upcoming late Pentecost season, i.e. post-Rally Day through Christ the King Sunday (right before Advent), will be available at the beginning of July for our next meeting on Sunday, August 2. Thank you for considering serving St. Luke in this way!



Book Club: Sue McNeill has scheduled a book club meeting to discuss "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows on Thursday, July 23, at 7:00 p.m. If you'd like to read then discuss books, please read the book and bring it to church. There will be discussion questions and refreshments (of course)! The book is available at the library and is in paperback now. Future meetings and books will be discussed at that time.

Book Description: January 1946: London is emerging from the shadow of the Second World War, and writer Juliet Ashton is looking for her next book subject. Who could imagine that she would find it in a letter from a man she's never met, a native of the island of Guernsey, who has come across her name written inside a book by Charles Lamb.... As Juliet and her new correspondent exchange letters, Juliet is drawn into the world of this man and his friends—and what a wonderfully eccentric world it is. The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society—born as a spur-of-the-moment alibi when its members were discovered breaking curfew by the Germans occupying their island—boasts a charming, funny, deeply human cast of characters, from pig farmers to phrenologists, literature lovers all. Juliet begins a remarkable correspondence with the society's members, learning about their island, their taste in books, and the impact the recent German occupation has had on their lives. Captivated by their stories, she sets sail for Guernsey, and what she finds will change her forever. Written with warmth and humor as a series of letters, this novel is a celebration of the written word in all its guises, and of finding connection in the most surprising ways.



## Notes from Conie:

- A chorus of "Thank You's" go to Christine Olson, Jo Klein, and Barb Jensen for providing special music of encouragement for our confirmands on Pentecost. Also I regret the omission of Josh and Deb Vigdal from the list of music leaders for the Worship Band led worship on May 17. Thank you for sharing your gifts and passions in this way!

- \*Go. Come. \*Our sending song on May 17 was "Go, Make Disciples" (ELW 540) a one verse hymn by Handt Hanson, a local Lutheran worship leader. As Jo and I were preparing the music for this Sunday, we wanted to use this song, but thought it needed more verses and challenged each other to write one. I extended the challenge to a poet friend, Julie Bonde, who enthusiastically wrote three! Although the Band prepared only two verses to sing during that worship service, we are including all three here. We thank God for Julie, Handt, and all the poets and composers who write and compose from their experience and gift us with words and tunes which amplify our grace filled lives!

1. First verse, "Go, Make Disciples" is ELW #540.

2. \*Come\*, be my children. Come, live in love, accepting grace.

Come, be my children, for I have loved you since the dawn of time

Come, be my light in the dark, Come, sing my peace to the world

Come, bring my joy to the street, for I am in you, yes, and you in me!...Come.

3. \*Go\*, bring my justice. Do kindness to others; Walk in Truth.

Go, bring my justice, For the least of you is a child of mine

Go, feed the hungry with bread. Go, be a home for the lost

Go, clothe the naked with warmth. They are in me, we are one...Go. [not sung on 5/17/09]

4. \*Come\*, for my healing. I have died that you may live.

Come, for my healing. Set your burdens down before the cross.

Come, let your worries be known. Come, bring your broken hearts.

Come, let me carry your pain. I am in you, be restored in me....Come.



### Micro-lending Group

The micro-lending group met on Tuesday, June 9 at church for a delicious meal followed by a time of making some micro-loans to people around the world. We have loaned out a total of approximately \$1,800.00 to 16 different people in 13 different countries around the world. Since beginning, we have received repayment of about \$300.00 from the loans made. We have used the monies received through repayment to make additional loans. We have made loans to a man in Togo, Africa who runs a restaurant, a man in Lebanon who runs a grocery store, a woman in Azerbaijan who raises cattle, a woman in Cambodia who farms, as well as a woman in Tajikistan who sells fruits and vegetables. During our meeting on June 9 we made six loans to people in Central and South America.

With the help of these loans along with their own hard work, people are making better lives for themselves. It is a joy to be part of that. Please join us for the next meeting on Monday, September 28 at 6:30. We meet quarterly, always enjoy a good meal together, and then make some life-giving loans. Come join us!

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