



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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Parish Times *August 2008*



“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:3-4

As I write this I am preparing for the evening women’s Bible study on baptism. I have also been thinking about and preparing for our upcoming fall stewardship program. On top of all of this, just last night I led evening prayer centered on “grace.” In all these things I feel deep thanksgiving. I give thanks for the gift of baptism; God receiving me as his own beloved child! What could be better than that?! Needless to say, this is all a result of God’s deep grace, that is, God’s totally undeserved love given freely to you and me. It is through God’s deep grace that we are baptized and become children of God. It is through God’s deep grace that we receive salvation as well as everything else we have: ourselves, our loved ones, friends, this earth, possessions, and everything that is around us. Stewardship is realizing that everything is God’s, (as they say, you can’t take it with you) and that we are entrusted with these gifts from God for the short time we are on earth. God has appointed each one of us as stewards of all he has given us. I ask that you take time to remember all the ways God has blessed you, to hold that in your heart and to thank God by returning to God’s work a portion of all that he has so graciously provided you. I too join you in doing this, with deep thanksgiving for everything my family and I have received this year, including the privilege of serving as your pastor.

May our loving God continue to bless you and fill you with his grace, love and thanksgiving!
See you in worship,
Pr. Dave

Announcing a Sunday School Planning Meeting on Monday, August 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jo Klein. If you would like to offer your time and talents to Sunday School in ANY capacity—fulltime, part-time, substitute teacher, or teacher assistant—please join us for this important meeting. We will be discussing Rally Day plans, curriculum, class rosters and more. Curious, but not ready to commit? Please come, by all means...just sit in and get a feel for it without any obligation. We are really looking forward to another terrific Sunday school year...please consider your part in it!





Notes from Conie:

- Psalm 100:1-2 says "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song." How does St. Luke do this? Let us count the ways. Our young people are lead by Jo every Sunday School hour. With handbells, Miss May leads our merry band of joyful ringers. Occasionally, guitars, drums, and other rhythm instruments lead our worship while piano and organ lead the remaining days. And our voices, the instrument God placed inside each of us to sing laments and praises always. We sing fully every Sunday and in everything we do. Good job! Keep up the good work.
- St. Luke's Worship Band will be leading the worship service on two upcoming Sundays. Mark them on your calendar and share the news with friends! August 3 and September 7.
- Special thanks to Katherine Moen and Emily Ireland for leading worship from the keyboard while I was gone in June and July.
- Here's the last installment of St. Luke Favorite Hymns. How many of these do you know all the verses by heart? Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us; Shall We Gather; Shine, Jesus, Shine; Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling; Soon and Very Soon; Spirit of Gentleness; The Borning Cry; The Lord Now Sends us Forth; There is a Balm in Gilead; There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (old tune; not in ELW); This is my Father's World; We are Marching in the Light of God; What a Friend we Have in Jesus; When the Saints go Marching In; You Have Come Down to the Lake Shore
- It's time to select hymns for our Sunday service for September, October, and November: everything up to Advent! Please join us in the sanctuary on Sunday, August 3 during the coffee fellowship to add your voice to the chorus. If you can't make it, don't fret. Send any special requests to Eva or Conie.



President's Blog *Sue McNeill*

August, 2008

The warmth of the sun these days seems to match the warmth of our congregation in welcoming our new members. New Member Sunday was incredible! Let's keep the momentum going! I invite each and every current member of St. Luke to be a member of the Stewardship, Evangelism, Parish Life, Youth/Education, Social Action, Worship/Music, Property, or Finance Commissions and continue to invite folks to our services, encourage kids to attend Vacation Bible School, suggest people come to Rally Day in September to hear the band and start Sunday School, volunteer for the Bun Run or Meals on Wheels, teach Sunday School or VBS, make crafts for the Bazaar, bake treats for the Bazaar, serve cookies on Sundays, read the lessons on Sundays, visit Leisure Age at Gloria Dei, purchase food from Food Fare, bring food for the food shelves, serve on the Council, sing in the choir, play in the church band, usher, send a birthday card or anniversary card to a member, visit our shut-ins or those ill in the hospital, phone someone you haven't seen for awhile and just say hi, offer a ride to someone who needs help getting to service, bring a dish to the church picnic, become a Pork Prince or Princess and sit with the pig overnight (it's fun!). I could go on and on. It isn't about monthly meetings. It isn't about reports. It's about doing what comes naturally. Talk about your experiences at St. Luke to anyone you talk to normally. Greet that "new face" after service with a "Welcome, please stay for coffee and cookies" and/or "Are you new to the neighborhood?" Just continue to be involved. Whether you know it or not, you're representing one of our Commissions. In return, I will continue to ask members to explain in our bulletins and our newsletter our on-going programs like Food Fare and Leisure Age and Bun Run, etc. just in case you'd like to step in and help. As always, I thank you for choosing St. Luke to be your church home.

August Birthdays:



2 - EMMA MCGREW, PHILLIS AMLEE
3 - KIMBERLY TYL
5 - SANDRA BERGER
7 - DONNA PAULSON
10 - PHYLLIS RICE
14 - TEAGAN BURCHILL-RILEY, THOR
BURCHILL-RILEY
18 - LEE JOHNSON, RALPH WASSMANN
20 - DOUG KLEIN, CATHY ERICKSON
21 - MAX ELLIOTT
22 - DEAN STADEM
24 - SOL HOLMLY, EARL ALEXANDER
28 - JOAN JOHNSON, RAY JOHNSON

August Anniversaries:



4 - KURT AND HOLLY SCHULTZ: 1984
16 - GENE AND KATHY SPRAY: 1986
16 - BRENDA AND CRAIG DREHMEL: 2000



Hey Youth! In August we will head to the Great River Waterpark (the old Oxford Pool) on Sunday, August 10. We'll see you at church at 9, then we'll prepare a meal from 10:30-11:30, and then head to the Water park from 12-5. Remember to bring your swimming suit and towel. As always, please RSVP with Susan Lorenz via email (Susan.Lorenz@hennepintech.edu) or phone: 651-699-2397, so that we can plan on drivers and the amount of food we'll need.

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



Ladies Night Out! Come to another of our fantastically popular Ladies Night Out events on Tuesday, August 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Al Baker's in Eagan. (Meet at church at 5:00 if you wish to carpool.) If you wish to attend, please contact Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) as soon as possible. It should be a great evening, as usual...don't miss it!



**Save the Date:
St. Luke Rally Day and
Pig Roast:
Sunday, Sept. 7!**

2008 Second Quarter Report:

Adopted Budget - 80,298.00
2008 Pledges - 55,918.46
2008 Offering Received - 57,139.75
Loose Offering - 3,526.41



Usher Notes...

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

Our ushers for August will be: Lee Johnson, Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder



August Readers:
3 - Alex Grzywinski
10 - David Elliott
17 - Sandi Gordon
24 - Jill Burchill
31 - Jeff Kingsley



Wednesday Evening Prayer

Every Wednesday through August at 7 p.m. we are having a quiet time of lessons and prayers, lasting about 30 minutes. It is a time to hear biblical readings, other inspirational readings, sing some quiet songs/hymns, and pray silently. Come, slow down, still your heart, and hear God's word both through readings and quiet prayer.

Announcing a **Budget Meeting** on Thursday, August 21st at 6:30 P.M. at church. All members of the congregation are welcome to come and help make light work of the 2009 estimated budget.



(Jason Grom served his mother's famous Danish Pastry at coffee fellowship recently. It was a huge hit, and he was inundated with requests for the recipe. He graciously accommodated us with the recipe below. Thanks, Jason!)

Danish Pastry

1/2 cup butter, softened, 1 cup flour, 2 Tablespoons water

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix 1/2 cup butter into flour. Sprinkle 2 Tablespoons water over mixture; mix. Round into ball; divide in half. On ungreased baking sheet, pat each half into strip, approx. 12x3". Strips should be about 3 inches apart.

1/2 cup butter, 1 cup water, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 1 cup flour, 3 eggs

Heat 1/2 cup butter and 1 cup water to rolling boil in medium saucepan. Remove from heat and quickly stir in vanilla extract and 1 cup flour. Stir vigorously over low heat until mixture forms a ball, about 1 minute or less. Remove from heat. Beat in eggs (all at once) until smooth and glossy.

Divide in half, spreading each half evenly over strips. Bake about 60 minutes or until topping is crisp and brown. Cool.

Frost with Confectioners' Sugar Glaze:

Mix 1 1/2 cups powdered (Confectioners) sugar, 2 Tablespoons softened butter, 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla and 1 to 2 Tablespoons warm water until smooth and of spreading consistency.

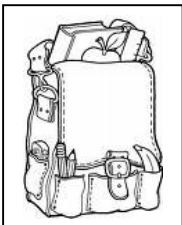


Micro-lending Group



On Sunday, June 22 Bill and Pam Rostal of St. Michael's Lutheran Church gave a wonderfully informative presentation after worship about micro-lending using the Kiva web-site. The presentation was well attended and drew a lot of interest. People are excited to begin this ministry! We will begin our own micro-lending group here in St. Luke sometime in September. No dates or specifics have been set; see bulletins for details. We will begin by using the general format outlined by the Rostals of first eating dinner together (some kind of ethnic take-out meal here at church) and then deciding to whom and for what project(s) we will lend money. The group will most likely meet quarterly (that will be decided by all), breaking bread together and watching the progress of the loans.

It Takes More Than a Willing Brain to Learn...It Takes Some Supplies



Who doesn't love having brand new school supplies to start out a new year? Help fill a backpack with a fresh supply of school tools for students in our community who would otherwise start the year without the proper tools to learn.

Contribute one item or several. Kids need everything from notebooks, pens, calculators, to crayons. Watch the bulletin for suggested items and give what you can. It's wonderful to begin a new school year, but even better when you have the supplies you need to learn.

Questions? Talk to Wendy Bjorklund. This drive is sponsored by the St. Paul Area Council of Churches (SPACC).

Spotlight on...Lorrene Chlian



I was born on February 23, 1930 on a farm in Renville Township in Minnesota, near Wilmar. My parents, Peter and Arvena Ufkes, had 11 children. There are five remaining now: me, Delbert, Anna May, Ruth and Lorraine. My twin sister, Lorraine, and I were the 9th and 10th born. When my mother was pregnant with Lorraine and I, she and her doctor did not know she was carrying twins. When her time came, the doctor arrived at the house, delivered my twin sister, then left! Luckily, my aunt was a midwife and on hand, so she delivered me.

I have many fond memories of living on the farm. We had both livestock and crops. There was a creek nearby; I remember ice-skating on the creek, and cutting and storing ice blocks for the warmer months. My siblings and I used to love to build a big fire and roast potatoes on sticks over the fire.

I went to Renville Elementary School and High School. I played basketball and baseball in school. I attended a Renville Methodist church as a youth.

I met my husband, Raymond, in 1946, and we married in 1969. We celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary on December 20, 2003, three months before he passed away March 8, 2004.

I have had many jobs over the years. As a teen, I worked at the Emporium Bakery in downtown St. Paul. Later, I worked as a butcherette at Piggly Wiggly. I received several courses of special training to become a machine operator at Vomela Printing, and later Gillette Company, for whom I worked 25 years, and from which I retired in 1988.

I enjoy knitting, crocheting, arts and crafts, reading, and following the Vikings.

My favorite hymn is "On Eagle's Wings"

When I joined St. Luke Church in October of 2002, I already had some connections in the congregation. My husband was related to the Kessler's, and we were friends with the Farrell's and the Johnson's (families in the St. Luke neighborhood). We got to know Pastor Jack through these connections.

When I joined St. Luke, I was so impressed with how pleasant, kind, understanding and warm everyone was. I have never belonged to a church where people care about each other so much!

132 Hungry people were served supper on June 2nd at the Loaves and Fishes program. Many thanks to our workers: Larry Litzkow, Helen Bye, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Thanks also to Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson for baking cookies.



Our annual Fall Women's Retreat at Camp Onomia will be held on Friday, September 26 through Sunday, September 28. The cost is \$72.00 per person, plus \$3.50 per person if you wish to use the pool. If you wish to rent linens, the charge is \$6.00 per set. To register, please sign up on the kiosk and submit a \$10.00 deposit to Eva Mac Niven by August 12th.

It is a wonderful opportunity to relax and have fun for a *whole weekend* at a beautiful lakeside retreat center in the company of friends...who could ask for more? Sign up today!



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING

Yoga: A practice of movement that encourages stillness.

Yogadevotion is a Christian Yoga company that works with churches educating members about how the practice of yoga can enhance their own personal spiritual practices. Yogadevotion works with churches to bring this program to congregations and into the community.

The purpose of yoga is to prepare the body and the mind for meditation and prayer. Yogadevotion provides a balanced mind-body-spirit practice combining Hatha yoga poses in a Vinyasa form, Christian music, and thought provoking devotions.

There is some interest in having Yogadevotions start a group at St. Luke's this fall, probably mid-September. Thursday evenings would probably be the night as that is a time when the church social hall would be available. A good time might be 6 or 6:30 p.m.

Classes would run for an 8-week session and would cost \$50 per person payable to St. Luke's. \$50 sounds like a lot of money; however, it ends up being \$5 per class after you calculate the 10% that goes back to the church when the class is completed. **15 persons are needed to hold a class. Your check reserves your spot.** When the eight weeks has been completed, the company will donate 20% of the cost back to the church.

Feel free to invite your friends or neighbors to participate. This is a good way to introduce people to our church community and perhaps gain a few new members! Separate classes could be held for older persons; again, 15 persons would be needed to hold the class. The instructor could modify the regular classes for people with physical limitations. Men are also welcome to participate in these classes. No previous yoga experience necessary.

Participants are encouraged to wear loose fitting, layered clothing.

Oversized clothing like sweatshirts can be great at the end of class but cumbersome during the class. You should have a yoga mat (available at local stores for approximately \$10 to \$20) and water.

Benefits of yoga include:

- *A time to be still and know God through the power of the Holy Spirit,
- *Physical and emotional balance,
- *Increased strength and muscle length,
- *Increased flexibility,
- *Improved cardiovascular health.

The classes seek to provide an opportunity to quiet our minds through physical practice, so that we may hear the still small voice of God and be in relationship with Him.

Please contact Julie Ellingson if you are interested in participating or have questions. jellingson@rah-tc.net, 651-646-3890 (home) or 952-854-6122 (work).

Be still.....and know that I am God. Ps. 46:10



PLAY BALL!

The church softball season continues through August 24 at the corner of Prior and St. Clair. (Times vary; see church calendar for specifics.) It is an exciting year with the following churches participating: Pilgrim, Immanuel, Plymouth, St. Peder's Lutheran and St. Mark's. If you are interested in playing softball please sign up on the kiosk or contact Mike Hegdahl at 651-699-0499.

Come to play, or come to cheer us on!

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