



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

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Open doors, open hearts, open minds.

Parish Times January 2012

“See, I am making all things new.” Revelation 21:5

These are the words Christ spoke in the revelation to John at the appearance of the new heaven and new earth. All things will be made anew. But this isn't just something that happens off in the distant future. It happens right here and now as Christ works through our lives to build them anew. One place we can experience this is through our baptism. Baptism??!! I can't even remember my baptism, you might say. Well... Jesus remembers your baptism, that day when you were reborn as a child of God. Baptism isn't some magical, or even simple rite of passage we go through. Together with faith, it has real power. In Mark 16:16 it is written, "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved." Faith is integral to baptism. In the Small Catechism Luther wrote, "In baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised." Luther then asks, "What does baptism mean for daily living? He writes, "It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drown through daily repentance; and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever."



When you feel as if you need to be made anew, take time to remember your baptism and know that Christ cleanses your life of sin and evil, raising up a new self, new hope, new life, new possibilities. Do this daily and you will find your life being made anew.

Pr. Dave Person



The 2012 offering envelopes are now available in the Social Hall. Please pick up your box as soon as possible to defray postage expenses. Thank you.



Workcamp Gathering with PIZZA!
 On Sunday, January 8 workcampers will meet for a time of fellowship, devotions and some GOOD pizza. Come hungry in all ways.



CONFIRMATION NOTES

There will be no classes during Christmas break (Dec. 28 and Jan. 4). Classes will be held on January 11 and 18. On Monday, January 23 we will volunteer at Loaves and Fishes from 3:30-6:30. More information about this will be coming. There will be no class on January 25.



January Readers:

- 1 – Katy Eggert
- 8 – Jean Gilland
- 15 – Wendy Bjorklund
- 22 – Joyce Bluel
- 29 – Sue McNeill



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for December: Joan Wilson, Ken McGrew, Nancy Hegdahl, Mark McGough, Jeff Kingsley.



150 Hungry people were served in the Loaves and Fishes program at St. Matthew Catholic Church on Monday, November 28th. Workers were Pastor Dave, Larry Litzkow, Dwight Paulson, Jean Gilland, Joyce Bluel, Ann Verwschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Audrey Rongstad and Robyn Rongstad also helped by baking cookies.



January Birthdays

- 1 - DUSTY JENSEN, LINDA FUNKHOUSER
- 10 - NOAH FABIE
- 12 - HAMLINE JOHNSON, SUE NODLER
- 13 - KIMBERLY LOEWEN, MATTHEW BRUMMUND, JUDY JOHNSON
- 16 - NANCY HEGDAHL
- 17 - KATHY SPRAY, RUTH LINDGREN, RICHARD SILTBERG
- 21 - LOUIS BILLMEYER
- 27 - KEVIN ARNDT
- 29 - NORMA ALEXANDER
- 30 - BEN ADAMS, SUE MCNEILL



January Acolytes:

- 1 - Kirby Peterson
- 8 - Thor Burchill Riley
- 15 - Sam Lipscomb
- 22 - Teagan Burchill Riley
- 29 - Maggie Erickson

Souper Bowl Sunday!

No, that is not a typo. Sunday, February 5 is SOUPER Bowl Sunday. That Sunday the confirmation students will be selling delicious homemade SOUP as a fundraiser for needy children. All the money raised will be donated to a charity. So come to church on February 7 ready for some soup, or bring it home for a ready-made meal. It will help make it a super day for both you and some beautiful children.



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for December: Eva Mac Niven, Connel McGough, Sam Elliott, Jean Gilland, Larry and Carol Vidgal, Dwight Paulson, Katy Eggert. Our ushers for January will be: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Peter Klein, Joan Wilson, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot, Al Baird.



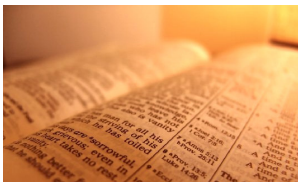
Ladies Night Out – Ladies Night Out in January will take place on Tuesday, January 17th at Bennett's Chop & Railhouse; 1305 West Seventh St. at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in car pooling, please meet at church at 5:00 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) if you are planning on attending by Sunday, January 8th so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.

The 2012 altar flower schedule is now posted on the kiosk. Please consider signing up for a Sunday or two. It is a wonderful way to celebrate a special event or to honor a loved one, and to beautify our church home. Sign up as soon as possible! You may use any florist of your choice, or make your own arrangement.



Sunday Adult Forum

We will have Sunday adult forums on January 22 and 29. We will meet at 10:15 in the library. Come, learn, share and grow in faith.



Spotlight on...Ruth



My connection with St Luke goes back a few years. My mother's family belonged to St John's which was then in Eagan. In the 1930s the St Luke pastor also served St John's and brought the youth from both churches together resulting in marriage for two of her brothers. In 1938 St John's physically moved to Rosemount and my parents were married there. We farmed in Eagan until the mid-60s when my dad started selling the property for houses.

In 1953 my dad brought me to St Luke for confirmation instruction and I was confirmed here in 1954 by Pastor Hock but we were still members of St John's.

I went to school in Rosemount and then to the University of Minnesota graduating with a Certificate of Medical Technology. After 35 years starting at Bethesda Hospital and ending at St Joe's, I changed careers and worked at a cabinet shop doing everything except building cabinets. In the spring of 2007, I "retired" and now keep busy with my "to do list"(which never gets shorter).

My mom lives with my youngest sister about a half mile from me and I help take her places and with other chores at their house.

We left St John's in 1993 when the pastor took the church in a different direction. I as well as most of the St John's members went to Shepherd of the Valley but I was missing something and started coming to St Luke occasionally. One Sunday Pastor Hock was here and that helped me realize I missed the sincerity, meaningful services, and warmth of St Luke.

My hope for St Luke is that we will continue the simple message "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, they are weak but He is strong" and "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want". May the Christ of Christmas fill our hearts and lives.



News from the President Joyce Bluel

Happy New Year!

It doesn't seem possible that another year has passed so quickly. I am starting my second year as President of the Church Council. I look forward to working with the council and Pastor Dave in continuing our efforts to encourage growth in our church with outreach into the community.

Again we will have a full schedule of activities here at St. Luke, with opportunities for all to get involved. I hope that you will consider using your talents to pitch in wherever you feel comfortable. Thank you for your continued support of all the ministries in which St. Luke participates.

I wish everyone a blessed and healthy new year.

Attention Parents:



- ▶ Our ever-popular Sunday School Retreat is scheduled for February 10-12. Families should receive a mailing outlining the specifics shortly. Please sign up on the kiosk as soon as possible!
- ▶ An organizational meeting to plan the Youth Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser will be Sunday, January 8 at 11:15. Families, remember, this is a fundraiser for our Camp Onomia retreat...we really need your support to make this happen! Specifics regarding matching funds from Thrivent to follow.
- ▶ Set-up for the Sunday School Pancake Breakfast will be Saturday, January 14 at 1:00. Please plan on participating!
- ▶ We will be having a brief organizational meeting on Sunday, February 5 at 11:15 to make plans for the upcoming retreat. What traditions do we want to keep? What new traditions do we want to develop? We want to hear from YOU!

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