



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

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Parish Times March 2010

We are in the midst of Lent, a time to remember your baptism as we move towards Easter and Christ's resurrection. This year we are joining with Immanuel and Pilgrim Lutheran churches for our Wednesday evening Lenten worships. Each Wednesday we will begin with a soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by the worship service at 7:00 pm. The overall Lenten theme this year is, "*Signed and Sealed for the Journey: Lenten Explorations in Baptismal Living.*" During each of the five Wednesday evening worship services we will be remembering one of the five promises we all made at baptism and affirmation of baptism (confirmation). With this in mind the schedule is as follows:

Do you intend....

1. to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed? February 24 worship at Immanuel Lutheran with Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore, assistant professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary.
2. To strive for justice and peace in all the earth? March 3 at Pilgrim Lutheran with Dr. Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer, professor of Peace and Justice at St. Thomas
3. To live among God's faithful people? March 10 at Immanuel Lutheran with Rev. K.P. Hong, protestant chaplain at Macalester College.
4. To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper? March 17 at St. Luke Lutheran with Bishop Peter Rogness of the St. Paul Synod.
5. To serve all people following the example of Jesus? March 24 at Pilgrim Lutheran with Rep. Alice Hausman, MN State Rep. - 66B

Come, worship, remember your baptism and the promises you made before God.

Pr. Dave



St. Luke is in need of another driver for Meals on Wheels. We deliver meals the fourth Friday of every month. The time involved is approximately 10:45 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in being a permanent or substitute driver, please talk to Jane McGrew at church, or call her at 651-698-4569.

Many thanks to our Meals on Wheels volunteers for January: Al Baird and Ann Verschoyle, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Audrey Rongstad, Ralph and Ruth Wassman, David Elliott, Roger Diestler, Jane McGrew.

St. Luke is hosting the Lenten soup supper and Lenten service on Wednesday, March 17. We need six volunteers to bring a large pot or crockpot of soup for that day, by 5:45 p.m. If interested, please sign up on the kiosk - thank you.





Confirmation News

This month, because of the Lenten Wednesday evening program, confirmation begins at 5:30 and ends at 6:30 p.m. March 3 and 10 we will have confirmation at this time. On Monday, March 15 we will once again volunteer at Feed My Starving Children. We will meet at church at 5:00 p.m. for a light dinner, then volunteer at FMSC from 6:00-7:30. The students will also present a check to FMSC of the proceeds we made from our Souper Bowl fundraiser. Because we are volunteering at FMSC on Monday, March 15, there will be no class on Wednesday, March 17. We will have class once again on March 24 (at 5:30), but no class on March 31, which is Holy Week. Easter is April 4.

Psalms Bible Study

On Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 pm we will have a Bible study on two of the Psalms, 13 and 130. Please sign up on the kiosk and take one of the study sheets. There will also (hopefully) be time to discuss other psalms or plan for the future study of psalms you would like to examine.

-Pr. Dave



Highlights of the February Council meeting:



>>Souper Bowl Sunday raised more than \$425.00. This will be given to Feed My Starving Children when the Confirmation children volunteer there in March.

>>In response to a request submitted by Pastor Dave, Thrivent has agreed to donate up to \$800 towards the workcamp's Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. They will donate \$.50 for every \$1.00 we raise. This event will occur Saturday, February 27th.

>>Twenty six members have submitted their responses to the Worship Time Survey. Please return your surveys to Nancy Hegdahl, the council would like to consider the opinion of each member!

The council meets the 2nd Monday of every month. All are welcome!

March Birthdays



- 3 - ABIGAIL WINECKE
- 4 - CARL ELLIOTT
- 6 - CONNELL MCGOUGH, MARK STADEM
- 7 - JUDY SALABA, KEVIN BRANDT
- 10 - GWEN COATES, LOIS PORTER
- 12 - BETTY HOARD
- 13 - DAVID VERSCHOYLE
- 14 - GEORGE GROBE
- 15 - DONALD ANNALA
- 16 - SUSAN LORENZ
- 18 - JACOB ARNDT, LISA VANDROVEC
- 19 - LUCY LIPSCOMB, SAM LIPSCOMB,
- 20 - ABERE MANDOLLO
- 22 - ALEX KLEIN
- 24 - MICHAEL FABIE
- 26 - SHERIDAN MOORE
- 27 - CAROLYN SCHMIDT
- 31 - JULIE GAARDER, ROBYN RONGSTAD,
RALPH SKOE

March Anniversaries



- 12 - MIKE AMUNDSON
AND KIMBERLY TYL: 2004
- 19 - SUE AND DAN GRZYWINSKI: 1977



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for February: Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser, Tom Gaarder

Our ushers for March will be: Eva Mac Niven, Max Elliott, Sam Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson, Katy Eggert

Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for February: Mark McGough, Joan Wilson, Ken McGrew, Jeff Kinsley.



Hey YOUTH!
Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 21: we will be going to Grand Slam after Sunday School. There are lots of games and activities to choose from...something for everyone...good times! Sign up on the kiosk today!

News From The Council President - Nancy Hegdahl



It has taken me a couple months to mull this over, and I am finally ready to talk about it. In December, I received this package in the mail with this very nice silver pen and pencil set from Thrivent, and with the package came a letter that stated the following, *“This month, the service of our 32,000 congregational coordinators comes to end. Thank you so much for your service and support of the Care in Congregations® program. We're grateful to members like you who truly make a difference in the lives of others.”*

First of all, I was shocked and unaware that this was happening. For many years now Thrivent has awarded our church \$1,600.00 by matching our fundraisers through the Care in Congregation program. Last year they decreased that amount to \$1,200.00 due in part to the economy. Second, I thought: why send these pen sets out to everyone? If they paid \$2.00 a pen set for 32,000 coordinators that would have been \$64,000.00, which could have been divided up nicely and distributed to the congregations! And last, I was disappointed that Thrivent ended this program, even if \$1,200 to \$1,600 doesn't seem like a huge amount to some of the bigger congregations around us, it helps St. Luke a great deal. It has helped to defray the cost of the February youth trip to Camp Onomia, and last year sent the youth on their Workcamp adventure. I wasn't ready to let this go, so I contacted the South Ramsey County Chapter President, and expressed my concern regarding the ending of this program. I found out that he shared my disappointment and encouraged me to talk to our Thrivent congregational representative. Since then I have found out that they will be rolling out a new program this summer called the Thrivent Choice Program. Details are still a little sketchy but they will begin enrolling congregations sometime this month. The Choice Program allows its members to help direct Choice Dollars to thousands of Lutheran nonprofit organizations, including Lutheran congregations. All congregations will need to be enrolled and organizations in our area will need to have approval from the South Ramsey County Chapter to be eligible to receive funds from Choice Dollars. Needless to say, it will be interesting to see how all this unfolds! You will notice that the youth spaghetti dinner did have sponsorship from the Thrivent South Ramsey County Chapter up to \$800. So please support the youth so that they can reach their matching dollars!

Council Members: There will be no council meeting on Monday, March 8. Instead the council will be retreating on March 20; watch for further details.



Minnesota March Food Share Month

It's March and time for your annual quiz.

Question: What does the number 1,000 mean to you?

- A. It's how many times I've thought, "Boy, am I ready for spring to get here" in the past 24 hours.**
- B. It's how many cars that seem to be between the drive-through window and me when I'm really hungry.**
- C. It's how many pounds of food St. Luke's members are challenged to contribute for the St. Francis Basket food shelf during the month of March.**

If you answered "C," you're correct! During a tough economic time like this, it's not always easy to come up with anything extra. But, it's exactly a time like this when the need for contributions to food shelves is at its highest. So, please contribute what you can, either in the form of nonperishable food items or dollars. If you have any questions, please see Wendy Bjorklund. Thank you!

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

- Colossians 4:2

Join with me in praying for all of our family members of St. Luke. Each week we will lift up seven members/families of St. Luke, praying for each one of them every day of that week. We began this in February, so in March I ask each one of you to join in by opening your church directory to page 1, and praying for the third column of people, the column beginning with the Burchills and ending with the Diesters. Remember them in prayer daily during the week of March 1-March 6. The next week of March 7-13, turn to page 2 and remember the column of people beginning with the Drehmels and ending with Julie Ellingson. Continue following this pattern through the weeks until we have prayed for everyone. Then we will start over again. Let us join together to lift up one another by name in prayer.

Pr. Dave



Our funds are running low for our Loaves and Fishes program...please, give generously to this very worthy cause!

116 Hungry people were served supper at St. Matthew's Church on the west side on January 25th at the Loaves and Fishes program. Workers were Larry Litzkow, Dwight Paulson, Jean Gilland, Joyce Bluel, Dorothy Zitterow, Ann Vershoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson also helped by baking cookies. Thank you, one and all.

Attention Parents: Early Communion Preparation Classes will be held in the next few weeks. St. Luke Church has a tradition that a child is eligible whenever the parents and the pastor believe that the child is ready. Pastor Dave will be leading first communion classes on Sunday mornings, February 28, March 7 and March 14 during Sunday School. (10:15 to 11:15) Upon completion of these classes the children will receive their first communion on Easter Sunday, April 4. Please talk with Pastor Dave if you are interested in this class.



Notes from Conie:

A message from Minestrone Minstrels: Good things are happening! In December a group of seven went caroling at the Chateau, the VA Home, and St. Mary's; in January four of us ventured east to visit with Adeline Boicourt; and in February, as of this writing, we're planning a little hymnsing for Rakhma. Our visits have been enjoyable with stories interspersed between hymns. It never ceases to amaze me what refreshment happens when singing songs of faith together. We are hoping to enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread with those we visit -- a 2-quart thermos has been purchased and we hope to use it soon. We welcome young and experienced volunteers to join this relational ministry -- our next rehearsal meeting is Thursday, March 4, 7 p.m. Come and connect!

Our voices rise in praise and thanksgiving to the most recent group of volunteers who picked hymn semi-finalists for our worship during April and May, the season of Easter. The next meeting is Sunday, April 18 and will cover the summer months of season after Pentecost. Preparation materials will be ready shortly -- see Conie to volunteer.

During Lent our Souper Wednesday Suppers are on hiatus. Many thanks go to Pastor Dave, Kyle Zvejniek and Dorothy Zitterow for concocting the delicious meals for us to share in the last few weeks. Please sign up on the kiosk in the fellowship hall and plan to join us after Easter!

Choir rehearsals during Lent are 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary. Join us when you can!



Results of the 2009 Fall Bazaar by Joyce Bluel

The Bazaar committee met on January 31st after worship to discuss the results of the 2009 Fall Bazaar. Gross sales were \$6,413.21 and after expenses the net proceeds were \$4,517.71.

The committee voted to send \$100 to the Airport ministry \$1,000 to Camp Onomia, \$300 to the Youth Work Camp Spaghetti Dinner to purchase a flat screen TV for its silent auction, and \$500 to sponsor the youth work camp leaving \$2,617.71 to be added to previous years balances totaling \$13,461.17 in the bank. Other decisions were made to purchase new stackable chairs for the social hall to replace our old folding chairs, having a cushion made for the long pew in the social hall and having the carpet in the social hall professionally cleaned. These last three items will need to be priced out and deducted from our balance.

Among some of the other items that were discussed to be funded with these proceeds were repairing our existing stove or purchasing a new one for the kitchen (this may involve installing a ventilation system), and resurfacing and restriping of the parking lot (this could be more costly than the Bazaar could fully fund). It was decided that these two items should be sent to the Property Commission of the Church Council to be further researched and discussed.

2010 Fall Bazaar by Joyce Bluel

It's never too early to start planning for the St. Luke Church Fall Bazaar! As you have read in a previous article, this event raises quite a bit of money that can be used for things that we do not have in our regular budget. I would like to encourage all members to get involved, it is a great way to get to know your church family better and the money raised has been used for some very worthwhile projects.

The date for this year's Fall Bazaar is Saturday, October 16th. Listed below are the committee chairs, who have graciously volunteered again this year. If you are interested in working in these areas, please contact the chair(s) to volunteer your time and talent.

Jo Klein & David Elliott: White Elephant Room
 Sandi Gordon: Kitchen
 Barb Jensen & Alex Grzywinski: Kiddie Room
 Dorothy Zitterow & Joan Wilson: Bake Sale
 Carol Vigdal: Publicity
 Margaret Vigdal & Joyce Bluel: Crafts
 Doug Lund & Heather Rissler: Raffle

Spotlight on...Megan J.

I was born on Monday, May 22, 1978 at 6:21 p.m. at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis. I grew up with my mother; we lived in the Midway area in St. Paul, then in Bloomington. I now live with my dad in Highland Park, St. Paul.

I attended Como and Central Lutheran elementary schools, Olson Junior High and John F. Kennedy Senior High. I enrolled in Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie for auto mechanics and early childhood education. I really enjoyed science, especially health.

I was a member of Salvation Army Church on Payne Avenue and St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. My favorite hymns were "What Wondrous Love" and "On Bended Knee". I sang in the choir and participated in many church youth group activities.

I love to read anything I can get my hands on! My favorite books are the Bible and The Green Mile. I especially enjoy horror/suspense (Stephen King), mysteries and theology. When I get interested in something I get as many books as I can on the subject from the library, and learn as much as I can on the topic. I really enjoy music, Bon Jovi in particular. One of favorite activities is playing cards, especially Texas Hold 'Em. I also like to pass time on the computer: Facebook, My Space and online gaming.

I joined St. Luke Church last year, on Ash Wednesday. I had passed by this church many times before, because I live close by. I was always curious about it, so I finally dropped in to check it out. I find great comfort and joy here; I feel safe, comfortable, accepted. I have made many friends, and I am thankful for them all. I love to sing in the choir, and I helped with the Bazaar and Feed My Starving Children. I attended the Sacred Life services; they were very meaningful to me. I am now enrolled in adult confirmation, and want to attend the monthly coffee houses in the future.

I have been blessed with two important mentors in my life. My first mentor is Jesus Christ. My second, whom I lost on Dec. 24, 2005 was my grandfather; my father's father. He was a teacher in a one-room schoolhouse. He was a very good role model for me. He was my mentor and my best friend. I like to think of him now as my guardian angel, watching over me from heaven.

I want to tell others what Jesus has done for me. I love this church, and I hope that we continue to grow as a congregation. and grow in our love for Christ.

Come! Join us for...



•fellowship •refreshments
•live music •board games
at St. Luke Coffee House
Benefiting MN Foodshare:
please bring canned goods
and/or a monetary donation
for this worthy cause!

Open to all!

7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

All ages welcome...

Just drop in!

We'll see YOU

Friday, March 26!



Ladies Night Out – Ladies Night Out in March will take place on Tuesday, March 16th at Carmelo's – 283 S. Snelling (at St. Clair) 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, March 7th so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.



March Readers:

7: Michael Arndt

14: Megan Jefferson

21: Jeff Kingsley

28: Wendy Bjorklund

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