



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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 Editor: Jo Klein

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Parish Times October 2009

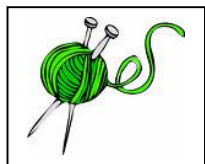
Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. James 1:17-18

This beautiful verse reminds us of a timeless truth, which is the basis of our being: all is a gift from our loving Creator. Everything is a gift from above, coming from the Father of lights. I wonder how often we take the time to contemplate this fact. If we do, we will come away with a deep sense of gratitude for the gift of ourselves, our friends, family, this beautiful earth, the very air we breathe, as well as our church family, the gift of salvation and peace found in Jesus Christ. The list could go on and on, all is a gift. One person said, "If the only prayer you say in your entire life is 'thank you,' that would suffice." All is a gift from our loving Creator.

We celebrate stewardship this month of October. I would like you to take time this month to contemplate the many gifts you receive from God. How can you live a life of gratitude for all God has given you? How can each of us express that gratitude through our daily lives? Please take time this month to pray about this and put those prayers into action through your monetary giving, sharing of your time and various talents with which you have been blessed. During the week of October 4 we will be sending "estimate of giving" cards to all confirmed members. We ask that you bring or send them back to church by Sunday, October 25, Stewardship Sunday. Take time to pray about this and let us give thanks through our very lives to the Father of lights who showers us with every perfect gift.

See you in worship,

Pastor Dave



Marvelous Mitten Makers can use what YOU can't! We knit, crochet, and sew hats, mittens, scarves, headbands, afghans, quilts, etc., for local children in need, as well as homeless adults. These items are given out around the first snowfall of the season, until we run out of our supply. Can you donate yarn, polar fleece, thread, quilt fabric, batting and/or cash? Can you knit, crochet, and/or sew? Can you drive (pick up and deliver)? If so, please contact Junella Litzkow at 651-489-0836 – thanks!



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for September: Joan Wilson, Jeff Kingsley Julie Ellingson and Nancy Hegdahl.



October Readers:
 4 – Wendy Bjorklund
 11 – Megan Jefferson
 18 – Joyce Bluel
 25 – Al Baird



Many thanks to the following for delivering Meals on Wheels for the month of August:

Al Baird, Ann Verschoyle, Eva Mac Niven, Audrey Rongstad, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Ralph and Ruth Wassman, Bruce Magnuson and Jane McGrew.



Ladies Night Out

The October Ladies Night Out will take place on Tuesday, October 20th at The House of Wong Restaurant on Larpenteur Avenue off of Lexington at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in carpooling to the restaurant, please meet at church promptly at 5:00 p.m. Please let Joyce Blueel (690-4614) know by Sunday, October 11th, if you are planning on going so we have a correct head count and reservations can be made.



One hundred seventy-eight hungry people were served at the Loaves and Fishes supper on August 24th at St. Matthew's Catholic Church on the West Side. Many thanks to our workers: Larry Litzkow, Dwight Paulson, Jean Gilland, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Thanks also to Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson for baking cookies.

Highlights of the September Council meeting:



- >>On October 4th after Sunday School classes, students will be distributing flyers for the bazaar through the neighborhood. This will be followed by pizza back at the church!
- >>In order to make room for additional wheelchairs, the entire pew behind the current handicapped pew will be removed. This will happen after the bazaar.
- >>A search is currently taking place for a new Bell Choir Director following the resignation of Diane May. Please tell Conie if you know anyone that may be interested!
- >>The Projected 2010 Budget has been reviewed by the council and will be presented to the congregation during the November congregational meeting.
- >>New commissioners and officers are needed for the 2010 council. Please see any council member to let them know you are interested!
- >>Remember: The council meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30. All are welcome!

Come! Join us for...

- fellowship •refreshments
 - live 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 Friday, October 23!

NEW at the Coffee House, for October ONLY!: we will have a water color display featuring the works of our renowned house artist, Christine Olson! Don't miss it!



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for September: Eva Mac Niven, Max Elliott, Carl Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson, and Katy Eggert.

Our ushers for October will be: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Peter Klein, Audrey McNamara, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot, and Al Baird.



Can you spare 3 to 4 hours a month to help feed hungry people? St. Luke, along with St. Mark, participates in the Loaves and Fishes program held at St Matthew's Catholic Church in West St. Paul on the fourth Monday of each month we prepare and serve an evening meal. The need is great: we served 178 people in August. We could use some more help. See Eva Mac Niven (651-698-2902) for more details if you could help with this worthwhile program.



"Thank You!: this is the only expression I can offer to show my appreciation for the many blessings of my church family, and to Pastor Dave for his prayers and visits. The cards, gifts, flowers, food, visits and phone calls from everyone were outstanding. Your prayers all helped me through my ordeal. God's blessing to you all. -Margaret Vigdal."



Notes from Conie:

Thanks for listening to the music that accompanies St. Luke worship services and events. It is my hope and wish that the musical offerings speak to you, feed you, and are a vehicle to express our common joys and sorrows of life in Christ together. Thank you, choir members, handbell members, various vocal and instrumental soloists. Your listening ears finely tune to the greater whole and create beautiful harmony, models of wonderful creation where everyone has their part to play. Our prayers have something in common with music listening. Prayer is a time to share our concerns and gratitude with God. It is also a time for us to listen and tune ourselves to God's will for a loving creation living in harmony. What does your part sound like? Is it something big or little? Is it at St. Luke, in your neighborhood, at work, or around the world? Does it surprise you?
Thanks for listening.

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Our songs of gratefulness and praise are raised to the Worship Band for leading our worship on Rally Day: Jo Klein, Dan Grzywinski, Patty Stadem, Wendy Bjorklund, Barb Jensen, Andrew Stadem. We welcome back the offerings of the choir after a summer off.

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Our bodies are fortified on Wednesday evenings thanks to these folks who generously give of their time and energy to provide soup: Alex Grzywinski, Nancy McGough, and Al Baird, our ever gracious server. You're souper!

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Hymns for the season of Advent up to Lent will be selected after church on Sun, October 4. Please grab a cup of coffee and join us in the sanctuary to help give your input!



October Birthdays

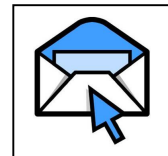
- 1 - PENNEY KELLY, LILY BROVALD
- 2 - WYATT SCHULTZ
- 3 - ANNE FABIE
- 5 - LAURIE SMITH
- 6 - EVA MAC NIVEN
- 9 - MIKE HEGDAHL
- 11 - AUDREY MCNAMARA,
JULIANNA HACKBARTH
- 12 - AMY DRIER, WARREN SALABA
- 16 - NESSIB SEID
- 17 - WANDA MATHISON
- 18 - KIM MILLER, STACEE SPRAY
- 21 - JACK HOLTZ, SHIRLEY JOHNSON,
STEVEN BRUMMUND
- 23 - KYLE ZVEJNIEKS
- 24 - ZACHARY MOORE
- 25 - BEKELE SANKIKO
- 27 - ZACHARY STADEM
- 28 - MARTHA NOVAK
- 31 - MARGARET VIGDAL, ANN ANNALA



October Anniversaries

- 7 - JENI DRIER AND ERIC NELSON: 2000
KENT AND BETH PETERSON: 1989
- 10 - MIKE AND NANCY HEGDAHL: 1992
- 12 - EARL AND NORMA ALEXANDER: 1946,
WARREN AND JACKIE SALABA: 1996
- 21 - JANELL AND MIKE WALTER: 2006
- 24 - DOUG AND JO KLEIN: 1981

Only YOU can help us keep our email contact list current! If you wish to be added or removed from our email contact list, or if your email address has changed, please contact administrator Jo Klein at 651.698.9443 or jojoklein@gmail.com. Thanks!



Micro-lending Group

Everyone interested in making micro loans to help people around the world should join us on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 6:30. We will enjoy a meal together at church, which is usually Chinese, costing about \$5.00 per person. We then move into the sanctuary to view the Kiva website and check out the wide variety of people who are seeking micro-loans. We then decide who to give a loan to, and how much. Even if you would just like to see how this all works, come! I think you will find it to be a blessing. Also check out the world map in the fellowship hall. There you will see all the micro loans we have made so far, including a picture of the person who received the loan.

--Pastor Person



October Confirmation News



We will have confirmation class at 6:15 on Oct. 7.

On Sunday, Oct. 11 we will participate in the CROP Walk, leaving church at about 12:30. Be there with some good walking shoes! If you can get some people to sponsor you, please do it. In so doing you will be helping someone in need. There will be no class on Wednesday, Oct. 14 (because we participated in the CROP walk).

We will have classes as usual on both Wed. Oct. 21 and 28, beginning at 6:15. And don't forget that worship is a vital part of confirmation. See you on Wednesdays and Sundays!



25th Annual Fall Bazaar
Joyce Bluel

It's almost here! Mark your calendar, the St. Luke Fall Bazaar is Saturday, October 10th. That's only a week away!

White Elephant items are now being collected in the northwest corner of the Social Hall labeled "White Elephant". You may bring them to church until noon on October 4th. If you have any questions, please call Jo Klein at 699-2393 or David Elliott at 699-2397.

Anyone willing to bake pies or other baked goods for the Bazaar, please contact Dorothy Zitterow at 651-698-9219. It's a *delicious* way to support our bazaar! You will need to bring your baked goods to church on **Friday, October 9th between 6:00 and 8:00 pm**.

We will be accepting your handmade craft items for sale at the bazaar starting on **Monday, October 5th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm; Tuesday, October 6th from 6:30 to 8:30; Wednesday, October 7th and Thursday, October 8th from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm and then Friday, October 9th from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm**. We ask that you bring your craft items *no later than noon on Friday* to allow enough time to prepare the displays. If you have any questions, please call Margaret Vigdal at 683-0917 or Joyce Bluel at 690-4614.

Raffles tickets are now available to be sold and donations are starting to arrive. If you can help with picking up donations for the raffle please see Julia Gaarder at 690-0117 or Nancy Hegdahl at 699-0499. We have many great prizes in this year's raffle, including grocery gift certificates, a flat screen TV and a king size quilt. If you are making an afghan or any prize for the raffle, please notify Julie or Nancy.

We look forward to another successful Bazaar, filled with fun and fellowship!! Please consider volunteering in one of the following areas and contact the committee chair to sign up:

White Elephant Co-chairs: Jo Klein & David Elliott
Raffle Co-chairs: Julia Gaarder & Nancy Hegdahl
Bake Sale Chair: Dorothy Zitterow
Publicity Chair: Carol Vigdal
Kitchen Chair: Sandi Gordon
Kiddie Room Co-chairs: Barb Jensen & Alex Grzywinski
Crafts Co-chairs: Margaret Vigdal & Joyce Bluel
Bazaar Chairs: Joyce Bluel & Margaret Vigdal

October President's Blog: Sue McNeill

Breathe. I am forever thinking "I'm TOO BUSY!!!" and I run from event to meetings to my job to oil changes, shopping for water heaters, waiting for service/repairmen, etc. Got an email from a friend who hasn't been on my mind for many months. She's been "busy" too. Busy with an infected hip replacement, blood clots, misdiagnosis and finally correct care, but a long road of recovery. Add to that a newly discovered benign brain tumor and that's my friend Ann. I read her email at 1:30 a.m. and felt so frustrated and helpless. Talked to her the next morning and guess what? She made ME laugh. She's learned to breathe again. For now, she is learning to become a patient with patience. She quit her day care job. Her daughter has moved in to care for her and keep the household going. Once a "child of concern", the daughter has come into her own just in time to assist Ann. So.....BREATHE. Call that friend, read that book; you can afford the hour or two. Really you can. And with that in mind, please answer the call your church family is making with respect to serving on the council and preparing your stewardship pledge for 2010. Our semi-annual meeting Nov. 1 will present a proposed budget to be matched to the pledges. It will also provide you a wonderful opportunity to be a council officer or commissioner. The meetings are 1-2 hours per month. I know you can find the time. And we will all benefit from your involvement. But remember.....BREATHE.



Youth Alert!

Join the confirmation students by taking part in the CROP Walk on Sunday, Oct. 11. Come, get some sponsors if you are able, and help some people in need, while having some fun. We will leave the church at 12:30.



There is still time to sign up for the Group Workcamp for the summer of 2010. The camp is in Centralia, Illinois from July 25-31. You will need to make a \$50.00 deposit to reserve a spot for yourself. You will also need to take part in some fundraisers for the trip. Please be aware that the camps fill us quickly. If you are interested or have any questions, ask Pastor Dave.

Check out the St. Luke Facebook site at "Felix and Peoples." We will have updates on activities and of course opportunities for you to share what YOU would like to do for youth activities, so take a look!

2009 workcampers will say thank you to the congregation for their wonderful support by serving the treats and drinks after worship on Sunday, Oct. 11. We will also be showing some pictures of the workcamp, so come and check it out.



"We Walk Because They Walk"

For the second year, St. Luke's confirmation youth will be participating in the St. Paul CROP Walk, which will be on Sunday, October 11, 1 p.m., at Cherokee Park United Church, 371 W. Baker St., St. Paul. We'll meet at the church at 12:30 and drive to the walk together. After the Walk, the youth will have some sort of treat and be ready to be picked up at the church around 3:30 p.m. Funds raised during this walk either go to Church World Services or can be designated to one of several organizations listed on the walkers' sponsor forms. These funds support various hunger programs all over the world and in the U.S.

You will have the opportunity to either sponsor our walkers or to sign up to do the walk yourself (all ages can participate ... the walk is either 2.5 or 5 miles in length ... the youth will walk the full 5 miles). Sign up for sponsors will begin Sunday, September 20 and continue every Sunday through Sunday, October 11. See Wendy Bjorklund to sponsor the walkers (or to sign up to walk yourself) or call me at 651-690-9309. Thanks for supporting our youth in this service project!

Spotlight on... Michael Arndt



My name is Michael Arndt. I was born on April 7th, 1993. I was born in St. Paul and have always lived in the same house. My parents are Tracy and Kevin Arndt, and my brother is Jake Arndt.

I am a junior in high school and I go to Twin Cities Academy High School. It's a really small school: there are 115 students in the high school and a little more than that in the middle school. (Yes, I said 115, not 1115.) It's the fourth year of the high school and the middle school has been around since 1999. I like going to a smaller school. I know everyone by first and last name (well, not the freshman *yet*), and there are small class sizes. As a student I'm asked all the time what I want to do as an adult. I always either say I don't know, or I list 100 things...I don't think I will ever know!

My hobbies include playing soccer, going camping, hanging out with friends, watching TV, and going on Facebook. I actually have to put The Office down as a hobby also; it's my favorite TV show.

I would say that I'm really involved at St. Luke. This summer I went with the youth group to a work camp in Montana. The people who went were: Pastor Dave, Kyle, Abby, Peter, Connell, Sam, Katie from Zimmerman, and I. We got to help people in need, and I met people from all across the country. I made so many new friends, and I got to know everyone in the youth group a lot better. This is one of the greatest things I've ever done in my life.

"Every shoe box offers an opportunity to share the Good News of the Savior with a hurting child." Franklin Graham, President of Samaritan's Purse

This Christmas season, would you like to make a difference in a young person's life? You can by participating in Operation Christmas Child. Simply pack a shoe box with small gifts and toiletries for a child aged 2-14 (you choose the age/gender of the child). The shoe boxes are distributed by Samaritan's Purse to children in need around the world. Our confirmation aged youth will each fill a shoe box in November and will be working at the local warehouse preparing those boxes for shipment in December.

Brochures with instructions/lists for filling the shoe boxes will be available in Fellowship Hall on the table next to the "Portals of Prayer" booklets beginning Sunday, October 11. Filled shoe boxes are due to church on Sunday, November 15 (there will be a table in the Fellowship Hall). This is a fun project for all ages and really gets my family in a Christmas mood every year. See Wendy Bjorklund for more details.



Sacred Life Worship

Do you sometimes have trouble making it to Sunday worship? When that happens, come to the Sacred Life

worship on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30. It is a small worship group that gathers in the library, seated in a circle. You will find the worship very informal, yet intimate. Come, check it out and worship the Lord!



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