



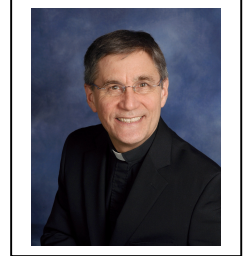
St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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 Editor: Jo Klein

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

*Open doors, open hearts, open minds.*

## Parish Times March 2014

*After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you." John 17:1*



Jesus prayed these words as he began his final journey to the cross. He would be glorified on the cross as he took our sins upon himself, died, and was raised from the dead. Our sins remain nailed to that cross. In Jesus we receive forgiveness, new life and hope.

Join us as we journey with our Lord this Lenten season on the way to the cross and new life. Ash Wednesday begins our journey, when on March 5 at 7:00 pm we will be marked with the cross of Christ on our foreheads. We remember that we are dust, but through Christ we have life. During that worship we will each receive a nail from the cross to remind us of the sacrifice Jesus made so we may know life.

We will worship on five Wednesday evenings during the Lenten season. Those worship services will each be preceded by a soup supper, which begins at 6:00 p.m. Worship is from 6:45-7:30. We will be using the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer service for worship. The worship services will center on the theme of change. Some change is welcome; some is difficult. Our lives are full of many different kinds of change. How does faith affect these life changes? Come and contemplate the various changes of life through the lens of faith. Come for soup and worship, warming your body and soul.

--Pr. Dave



**Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for February: Doug and Jo Klein, Julie Ellingson, Mike Hegdahl.**



87 People braved the subzero weather on January 27<sup>th</sup> for a hot meal at the Loves and Fishes program at St. Matthew's church on the West Side. St. Luke workers were Pastor Dave, Larry Litzkow, Joyce Bluel, Emma McGrew, Michaela McGough, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven.



**Ladies Night Out** – Ladies Night Out in March will take place on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at Shamrock's, 995 W. Seventh St. at 5:30 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) if you are planning on attending by Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.

**March Readers:**



- 2 – Mike Hegdahl
- 9 – Katy Eggert
- 16 – Jeff Kingsley
- 23 – Julie Ellingson
- 30 – Laurie Herrmann

**WE NEED GENTLY USED SWEATERS** for a Bazaar mitten project. Please bring yours in to the church office asap. Thanks!



## Spotlight on...Rob



I was born in Minneapolis, MN in 1971 and was raised in Maple Grove before the suburban expansion swallowed the farmland and gravel pits.

I am the younger of two boys in the family. My brother, Doug, is two years my senior and lives in Pittsburgh, PA with his wife Jackie and their twin children, Brad and Amelia. Both of my parents were born and raised in Minnesota. My mother is a graduate from Robbinsdale High School and the University of Minnesota. My mother still lives in Maple Grove with my step-father Skip Dickinson. My father is the first generation Herrmann off of the farms in Norwood Young America, and graduated from St. Louis Park High School and attended Iowa State University. My father has retired to Naples, FL with his wife Kay.

I graduated from Osseo High School in 1990. Following high school, I attended Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN and played football for John Gagliardi. I graduated from SJU in 1994. I have a graduate degree from the University of South Carolina in Library and Information Science, which was earned in 1999.

I am a librarian though my children are skeptical, since I don't work in a library. For the past four years, I have worked for a small software company that specializes in developing software specifically for libraries. I served as the Director of Sales. I'm actually transitioning to a new job with another library related company, ProQuest.

Maple Grove was still a small town during my youth. Our family was one of the founding members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, and my earliest memories were attending church in the gymnasium of my elementary school. By the time I was confirmed, Lord of Life had expanded to its 4<sup>th</sup> building and a confirmation class of approximately 100.

Our family joined St. Luke in 2012. We were seeking both a church and community. From our first visit, we felt comfortable and were able to make some personal connections with the St. Luke community. St. Luke made sense to us and defined what we were seeking but had failed to find with other congregations in the area. Pastor Dave and the congregation as a whole provide a welcoming environment for us and especially, Ava and Tatum. We have been moderately active in church activities, including reading scriptures, ushering, coffee fellowship (which the girls particularly love), attend Sunday School, and volunteer at the annual Bazaar.

It is my hope that St. Luke will be able to grow while retaining the wonderful, familial environment that we have found so comforting.



### Confirmation News

March 5 is Ash Wednesday. We will not have class that day. Come to worship. The next three Wednesdays of March (12, 19, 26) we will have class from 5:30-6:30.

### FIRST COMMUNION

On Sundays, March 30 and April 6, I will be leading a first communion class for our non-communing children during the Sunday School hour. If you and your child are interested in these classes, please talk with me. We will be making our own first communion cups out of clay while learning the meaning of communion and the love God shows through the bread and the wine. Then on Easter morning (April 20), your child will use the cup they have made to receive their first communion. They will then take that cup home as a remembrance. Please talk with me, Pastor Dave, if you are interested.



HOLY COMMUNION

The Group Workcamp youth will be selling Easter flowers and floral bedding plants for a fundraiser for their summer mission trip. **Easter flowers** will be sold March 2, March 9 and March 16; pick up will be April 18 and 19. **Bedding plants** will be sold March 30, April 6 and April 13; pick up will be May 23. Thank you for supporting our youth!





### March Birthdays

- 3 - Abigail Winecke
- 4 - Carl Elliott
- 6 – Connel McGough,  
Mark Stadem
- 7 - Judy Salaba
- 10 – Joe Luty,  
Lois Porter
- 12 - Betty Hoard
- 13 - David Verschoyle
- 15 - Donald Annala
- 16 – Susan Lorenz
- 18 - Jacob Arndt,  
Lisa Vandrovec
- 22 - Alex Klein
- 24 - Michael Fabie
- 26 - Sheridan Moore
- 31 - Julie Gaarder,  
Robyn Rongstad,  
Ralph Skoe



### March Anniversaries

- 12 - Mike Amundson and  
Kimberly Tyl: 2004
- 19 - Sue and Dan  
Grzywinski: 1977

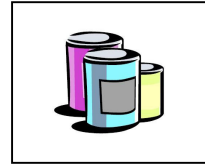
### **Ash Wednesday and Lent**

This year Ash Wednesday falls on March 5. We will gather for worship that evening at 7:00 pm. The next five Wednesday evenings after Ash Wednesday we will gather for worship around the theme of "Making Change." Life is full of change and we will be touching on some of those changes throughout Lent as we move towards Easter. --Pr. Dave.



### **Lenten Soup Suppers**

How about a nice hot bowl of soup to warm you up before our mid-week Lenten services? If you are interested in signing up to provide either soup or dessert for one of the 6 mid-week services, please sign up on the sheet posted on the kiosk. The first service will be Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and will continue each Wednesday through April 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to either Joyce Bluel or Junella Litzkow.



### **March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!**

Each March, Minnesota FoodShare directs the March Campaign, the largest food drive in the state and restocks 300 food shelves across Minnesota. It recruits thousands of congregations, companies, schools and civic groups to run local food and fund drives to aid in the effort.

Minnesota FoodShare organizes a statewide media campaign to promote food shelf donations. It produces and distributes free promotional and educational resources for food drive organizers. It acts as a clearinghouse for cash donations and distributes the funds to participating Minnesota food shelves. Throughout the year, Minnesota FoodShare advocates on behalf of hungry Minnesota families with both state and federal lawmakers and educates the public about hunger in Minnesota.

So, during the month of March, we will be collecting donations of food and money for those in need. Checks can be made out to St. Luke with a notation of "food drive" in the memo line. Thanks for all of your help!



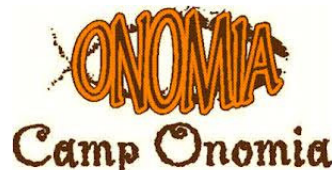
### **Usher Notes**

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

Our ushers for March will be: Eva Mac Niven, Jim Kroschel, Doug Nelson, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Pam Ballis, Katy Eggert.

### **Come one, come all to our ever-popular ALL-MEMBER WINTER**

**CHURCH RETREAT** at Camp Onomia, March 21-23. Young and old, parents or singles, **all are welcome!** Want to get away from your busy life, and just relax and have fun? Or do you want to have some great family time with your kids? There is something for *everyone!* To RSVP, or for further info, contact Sue Grzywinski at 651-343-1453, or talk to Pastor Dave.





## March Musings from the Music Director

**Music Season #4 begins - Wednesday, February 26th through Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>!** Come and join the Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir as we prepare for Lent, Holy Week, and the Resurrection of our Lord. All voice parts needed. Please consider singing or ringing...even if you do not read music!!!

**A HUGE *thanks*** to all who shared their “talents” at the first annual **FREE, FABULOUS, FUN, FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY** event on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The luscious desserts, infectious laughter, and meaningful fellowship truly did help change everyone’s “**Winter Blues**” to “**Spring Smiles!**”

**If you are interested in singing and/or playing more contemporary worship music, consider sharing your musical gifts with the St. Luke Praise Band. We rehearse every first Wednesday of the month and share music in worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month!**

**March Praise Band Rehearsal – Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> after the Ash Wednesday Service.**

“One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain.” – Bob Marley

Peace,  
Cammy Horne

**March Acolytes:**  
2 – Michaela McGough  
5 - (Ash Wed) Emma McGrew  
16 – Matt Brummund



## Results of the 2013 Fall Bazaar

The Bazaar committee met on January 26th after worship to discuss the results of the 2013 Fall Bazaar. Gross sales were \$5,961.57 and after expenses the net proceeds were \$4,117.27.

The committee voted to send \$100 to the Airport ministry \$1,000 to Camp Onomia, \$75 to Highland Leisure Age, \$2,000 set aside for carpet cleaning and restroom renovations, \$300 to the Youth Work Camp Spaghetti Dinner to purchase a flat screen TV for its silent auction, and \$1,000 to sponsor the youth work camp, along with previous years proceeds this leaves a balance of \$14,487.78.



## AUDIT

There will be an audit of the church financials on Sunday, March 9 after worship. This is an open meeting; your participation will be welcomed and appreciated.

A very tasty chicken soup was served at our annual Souper Bowl Sunday in February. Several folks requested the recipe, so here it is...enjoy!

### Nancy's Chicken Soup

- 8 cups of chicken stock
- OR 8 cups water + 8 bouillon cubes
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 split breasts of chicken with bone and skin - washed
- 2 cups of chopped celery
- 3 cups sliced carrots
- 2 teaspoons of salt
- pepper to taste
- 1 teaspoon of sugar
- 1 cup frozen sweet corn
- noodles of your choosing

Boil the broth with the chicken, onion, carrots, celery, salt, pepper and sugar for about 30 to 45 minutes until chicken is cooked and veggies are tender but not mushy. Take out chicken and cool. Remove skin and bones and tear up chicken into bite size pieces. Add frozen corn and noodles to the broth and boil until noodles are cooked. Add back the chicken and continue to season with bouillon, salt and pepper to taste.



## 101

We celebrated our centennial last year and have now entered our 101<sup>st</sup> year as a congregation. To celebrate this, I would like to look at different aspects of our faith under the title of "101," referring to a college introductory class as well as our years of existence. These writings will simply be thoughts about various aspects of our faith. If anyone would like to write a "101" column on a topic, please do! I begin with some words about worship:

### Worship 101

In her book entitled, "Dakota", Kathleen Norris writes about returning to church after a twenty year absence. She attempted to go back a number of times, but soon quit. She spoke with a pastor friend about her desire to grow in the faith, but how difficult she found it to attend worship. The pastor told her, "I don't know too many people who are so serious about religion they can't even go to church." After that, she began worshipping again. Concerning this sometimes painful journey she writes, "Even as I exemplified the pain and anger of a feminist looking warily at a religion that has so often used a male savior to keep women in their place, I was drawn to the strong old women in the congregation. Their well-worn Bibles said to me, "there is more here than you know," and made me take more seriously the religion that caused my grandmother Totten's Bible to be so well used that its spine broke. I also began, slowly, to make sense of our gathering together on Sunday morning, recognizing, however dimly, that church is to be participated in and not consumed. The point is not what one gets out of it, but the worship of God; the service takes place both because of and despite the needs, strengths, and frailties of the people present. How else could it be? Now, on the occasions when I am able to actually worship in church, I am deeply grateful." Kathleen Norris, *Dakota* P. 94-95.

### Sermon Digest - Related Thoughts to Worship 101

Here is part of my February 9 sermon from Matt. 5:13-20.

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth." "You are the light of the world." There is something very important said here that we cannot see in the English. The "you" in both sentences is plural, not singular. Together we are the light and salt of the earth. This is one reason we gather as a congregation, as a synod, as a national church, as an international church. Christianity is about living life together; it is not a one-person show. It is like a favorite writer of mine, Steve McKinley wrote, when talking about the church and those who say they can be "spiritual or Christian" without the church. McKinley writes:

"This is how the Christian life is lived ... in community. Sinful community? Yes, Imperfect community? You bet. But still lived in community, and I will not apologize for being part of that community, nor for inviting, encouraging, and urging others to be part of it.

The quest for a pure spirituality, outside of any tie to organized religion, seems to me to be a kind of spiritual self-gratification that fails to bring life in any on-going way beyond momentary good feelings for the self.

For when the rubber meets the road, spiritual people apart from the church did not build any of the colleges or seminaries of the church. Spiritual people apart from the church did not give birth to the many different social service agencies that are such a significant part of the church's ministry in and to the world.

Spiritual people apart from the church were not the ones to pioneer homeless shelters, food shelves, sanctuaries for battered women, tutoring programs, support groups for troubled children, and safe houses for teenagers who run away.

The institutional church is doing these things. Organized religion is doing these things. Your church is doing these things. Organization is essential for mission, and mission is what we are all about.

McKinley continues, "It's fine to have religious feelings. It's fine to be spiritual. But if you really want to change the world; if your religion—your spirituality—compels you to look at all beyond yourself—and if it does not, then I for one have no use for it, and please do not call it biblical Christianity—but if it does cause you to look past yourself, then you've got to be part of the battered, bloody, and bedraggled bride of Christ which is the institutional church."

I think McKinley is right on. The church IS far from perfect. But together, in Christ, it has done remarkable things, sacrificial and life-giving things. For all of the things McKinley listed above, the church has been light and salt in this world. We are part of that. This NOT to say that you cannot let the light of Christ shine through you individually. Of course you can and we are called to do just that, to let the light of Christ shine through each of us individually. But at its heart, Christianity is about loving relationships, loving one another and God. It IS about community. It is about giving of the self for the other. That is relationship, community. That is salt, giving a beautiful new taste to this world.

--Pr. Dave