



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 February 2011

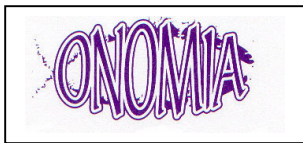
Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Deuteronomy 5:12

As part of my preparation for a sermon, I was reading from Martin Luther’s explanation to the third commandment (see above) in the Large Catechism. Here is a small taste of what Luther had to say: “Remember then, that you must be concerned not only about hearing the Word but also about learning and retaining it. Do not regard it as an optional or unimportant matter. It is the commandment of God, and he will require of you an accounting of how you have heard and learned and honored his Word.” Luther goes on, “...when we seriously ponder the Word, hear it, and put it to use, such is its power that it never departs without fruit. It always awakens new understanding, new pleasure, and a new spirit of devotion, and it constantly cleanses the heart and its meditations.”



Come worship. Fill your heart with the life-giving Word of the Lord.
 Pr. Dave

Attention Parents:



- ▶ Our ever-popular Sunday School Retreat is scheduled for February 18-20. Families should receive a mailing outlining the specifics shortly. Please sign up on the kiosk as soon as possible!
- ▶ We will be having a brief organizational meeting on Sunday, February 6 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? What craft and/or service project do you have in mind...and can you bring samples? We want to hear from YOU!



Stamping With Sue – February 26

Sue McNeill announces her monthly Stampin' Up! technique classes on the last Saturday of the month (except for holidays) in the church library from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. For \$5, you will make 3 cards using different techniques and receive a collectible technique card. RSVP by 5:00 p.m. the Wednesday before class so a kit can be prepared for you. Email: ssmcneill@hotmail.com; work 612-596-4011; home 651-688-8176. No experience necessary. All are welcome!

Spotlight on...Jean



I was born May 19, 1920 in St. Paul, Minnesota; the third daughter of Augustus and Julia Nelson, on Field Avenue. I was baptized into St. Luke Church, where I was also confirmed and married.

I attended Homecroft Elementary School, Monroe Junior High School and Mechanic Arts High School in downtown St. Paul. I graduated in 1938.

I had a few jobs, my last was a Early American Life Insurance Company as a Life Underwriter. I worked there for 20 years, and retired in 1983. Bill and I then traveled to Mesa, Arizona as "Snowbirds" for fourteen winters; we met new friends and had fun times.

I met Bill when he came to St. Luke Luther League. We were engaged April 4, 1942 and married November 24, 1945 when he returned from the war.

Bill and I had three children. Our first son, Craig Alan, was born with a heart defect and died at seven months. We then had our daughter, Sandra, and our son, Martin. We are proud grandparents to three grandchildren and great-grandparents to two little girls born last summer.

I have served at St. Luke as a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, church council commissioner and Fall Bazaar Co-chair, and have been active in Women's Bible Study Circle, Fare For All, and Loaves and Fishes. I also enjoyed singing in the choir; my favorite hymn is "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

I read a lot. I have sewed all my life, and I also like to knit and crochet.

St. Luke is now the only church in the Homecroft neighborhood; I hope that we will continue to grow with families and children.

News From Council President Joyce Bluel



St. Luke will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2013 and has the distinction of being one of the few debt free churches in the ELCA. This has been due in large part to the sale of the parsonage and the wise investment made in the Vanguard Fund. However, in the past few years we have seen these funds diminish at an alarming rate just to keep up with expenses.

Following the November congregational meeting, I was approached by two members that felt we needed to do something to get a handle on our financial situation. It was suggested that a small committee of congregants be formed to look at St. Luke's expenses and revenue and to try and project where we will be five years from now at our current rate of spending. The church council has given its blessing for the formation of this committee and we look forward to their findings and recommendations. If all proceeds as planned, we will have something to report at our May congregational meeting.

I would like to think that St. Luke will still be a fiscally sound and thriving church for generations to come. In order for that to happen, we all have to be good stewards and do our share to ensure that we are able to keep the doors of St. Luke open and our congregation growing.

Which brings me to what many of you may have noticed at the front entrance of our church, the "Welcome Center"; it was an idea introduced by our Evangelism Commissioner, Judy Salaba, to have an area that visitors to St. Luke will readily identify when entering our doors. They will be able to get information regarding activities here at St. Luke, as well as receiving a welcome packet that was put together by our Evangelism Committee. We are looking for volunteers to man the Welcome Center prior to worship and also during coffee fellowship. If you are interested in participating, please talk to Judy.

There are many ways to be good stewards in addition to monetary pledges, the use of your talents to serve on one of our commissions, to sing in the choir, play bells, usher or be part of the altar guild and don't forget our neighborhood fix up project coming in June. It takes many hands to make a congregation work, each one of you is important.

2010 Offering Totals:

Adopted Budget as of 12/31/10 - \$161,850.00
2010 Pledges - \$125,580.00
2010 Received - \$128,181.50



Confirmation News



On Saturday, Feb. 5 at 10 a.m. the confirmands will meet at church to make soup. We will then sell the soup on Sunday, Feb. 6 (SOUPER Bowl Sunday) after worship for a free will offering, which will be donated to Feed My Starving Children. There will be no class on Wed., Feb. 9. We will have class on Feb. 16 and 22.

Souper Bowl Sunday!

No, that is not a typo. Sunday, February 6 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 6 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.



February Birthdays



- 1 - ELLEN SCHULTZ
- 4 - MAGGIE ERICKSON
- 5 - KURT SCHULTZ
- 7 - SAMANTHA SMITH
- 9 - KIRBY PETERSON
- 10 - JUNELLA LITZKOW
- 11 - SUE GRZYWINSKI
- 12 - ALEC SCHULTZ,
CASSONDRRA JOHNSON
- 14 - DIANNE DIESTLER
- 16 - SAM NODLER,
ANN VERSCHOYLE
- 23 - MARY DYBVIG,
LORRENE CHLIAN
- 24 - JEFF KINGLSEY
- 26 - KAREN WASKO
- 28 - OLIVIA LELII



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run volunteers
January: Ken McGrew, Nancy Hegdahl, Mark McGough,
Jeff Kingsley.



Ladies Night Out – Ladies Night Out in February will take place on Tuesday, February 15th at Champ's on W. Seventh at 5:30 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) if you are planning on attending by Sunday, February 6th so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for January: Roger Diestler, Doug, Abby and Peter Klein, Joan Wilson, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird.

Our ushers for February will be: Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder.

Micro-Lending Group

We will meet on Thursday, February 10 at 6:30 for a meal (\$5.00) and to make some micro-loans to people around the world. If you haven't participated in this yet, come and see! It will put some joy in your heart. All are welcome.



February Readers:
6 – Wendy Bjorklund
13 – Sandi Gordon
20 – Katy Eggert
27 – Sue McNeill



103 Hungry people were served supper on Monday, December 27th at St. Matthew's Catholic Church for the Loaves and Fishes program. Workers were Larry Litzkow, Pastor Dave, John and Andy Person, Calvin Lee, Jean Gilland, Dorothy Paul, Joyce Bluel, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson also helped by baking cookies.

Youth Workcamp

Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction

Come support our youth, eat some delicious spaghetti, and take part in the silent auction on Saturday, March 12 beginning at 6:00 p.m. We have received some wonderful donations from generous members and area businesses for the silent auction. The proceeds of this will all support the youth in traveling to a workcamp in Barnesville, Minnesota, where they will join about 400 other youth in fixing up about 55-60 homes for people who for whatever reason cannot do it themselves. The workcamp includes Bible studies and Christ-centered programs linking faith to the work. It is a time of blessing for all involved, so come to the spaghetti dinner and support your youth!



Adult Sunday Forum



In February we will have two adult forums, one on Sunday, Feb. 13 and the other on Feb. 27. On February 13 we will have a conversation about our journey as individuals and a congregation to follow Christ in strengthening one another and reaching out with the gospel. What can we do to strengthen our church, build up one another and reach out to others? Stay tuned for more information. On February 27 we will watch a video entitled, "The Anatomy of a Baptism." What is baptism all about? What happens in baptism? We will watch the video, then discuss.

WE NEED DONATIONS for our March 12 silent auction! Proceeds to raise funds for our youth group workcamp mission. Hand-crafted, store purchased, or simply monetary: any and all auction donations will be GREATLY appreciated! Ready and willing to help? Contact Pastor Dave or the church office. Many thanks!

