



St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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[www.saintlukechurch.us](http://www.saintlukechurch.us)

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

## Parish Times June 2008



### *Thoughts from Pastor Dave:*

“When we cry “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God...” Romans 8:15b-16

Last month I asked all of you to join me in prayer concerning God’s leading for St. Luke, as well as our God-given strengths as a church. As I have prayed and observed everything going on here at St. Luke, one of the strengths I see is that St. Luke is very much of a family. As Paul wrote in Romans, we are all children of God, which makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. We are family. This is a beautiful strength; people are searching for community and belonging in this fragmented world.

There are several ways I would like to build on this strength, one of which involves youth, and that is what I wish to address here. I would like to create a mentoring program for our confirmation youth. Studies have shown that healthy youth have several significant adults involved in their lives. This is also extremely important in our youths’ faith lives. The mentor would meet one on one with a confirmation student for about an hour or so, once a month (September – May), at a time determined by the mentor and student. General ideas would be provided for those meeting times. But one of the things I hope the mentor would share are stories from their faith walk. What does faith mean to you? How has faith informed your life and what you do? I want our confirmation students to know that faith is a real life issue. I also hope mentors could remember birthdays or other important events. Basically, the “job description” for the mentor is that you show care for that student. This would be one more important connection between the student and the church, between faith and life. Someone once said, *“Fifty years from now it will not matter what kind of car you drove, what kind of house you lived in, how much you had in your bank account, or what your clothes looked like. But the world may be a little better because you were important in the life of a child.”* Will you be that someone? Please let me know and feel free to ask any questions you may have. Thanks for your ministry in this family of God.



### June Readers:

- 1 - Cathy Erickson
- 8 - Sandi Gordon
- 15 - Joyce Bluel
- 22 - Wendy Bjorklund
- 29 - Julie Ellingson

**Reminder: softball starts July 13!**  
**Details to follow in July newsletter.**

**If interested, please contact**

**Mike Hegdahl**  
**at 651-699-0499.**



### *June Communion Assistants*



- 1 – Jill Burchill
- 15 – Ellen Schultz



### Usher Notes...

**Many thanks to our ushers for May:** Lee Johnson, Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser, Tom Gaarder.

**Our ushers for June will be:** Eva Mac Niven, Max Elliott, Carl Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson, Katy Eggert.



Hey Youth Group...grab your towels and suits and join us for a swimming outing at Oxford Pool in St. Paul on Thursday, June 26, 12:30 to 5...see forthcoming emails for details....plan on having fun!



**Micro-lending Group**  
Those interested in the micro-lending group, please mark Sunday, June 22 on your calendar. Bill Rostal, one of the leaders of the micro-lending group in St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville will make a presentation at St. Luke. Come, learn, and let us put our learning into practice as we begin a similar group here at St. Luke. See you on June 22!



**Adult Canoe Trips**

Canoe canoe? (Can you canoe?) Even if the answer is no, you are invited on the adult canoe trip to the BWCA, August 7-11. Come enjoy the beauty of the BWCA and great fun. How can you beat it? Sign up at the kiosk today!

**Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for May:**

**Nancy Hegdahl,  
Mark McGough,  
Jeff Kingsley and  
Ken McGrew.**



**Notes from Conie:**

- What are the prayers of our children? These prayers of our 7th grade confirmation class were voiced over the choir singing Ken Medema's song, *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* in May: "We pray for our families' health and that there are no more wars. Please help homeless people around the world so that they will find food, water, and a safe place to stay. Help us find a way to share the abundance of food in this country with those who have none. Bless your fur-covered "children" who cry out to be safe. Help us to find a source of energy less draining on our earth and save our environment that is dying rapidly. Thank you for finding a new pastor. Thank you for all of our loving families and all of the blessings that you give us. Amen." Special thanks to Peter and Sam E. for being our orators of the morning.
- Play an instrument? Share a tune or two of special music over the summer. Sing and don't wish to commit to the choir? Watch for announcements for Sunday morning rehearsals before the service. If you're interested, contact Conie at 651-587-7530.
- Here's a few more songs your friends love at St. Luke. Which ones are your favorites? Jesu, Jesu; Jesus Loves the Little Children; Jesus Loves Me; Jesus Savior Pilot Me; Jesus, Remember me; Just as I am; The King of Love My Shepherd Is; Lead On, O King Eternal; Leaning on the Everlasting Arms; Let us Break Bread; Lift Every Voice and Sing; Light of Mine; Lord Take my Hand and Lead Me; Lord, Let my Heart be Good Soil; Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying; Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service; Love Divine; Love, Love Lifted Me.
- Special thanks to our Worship Band for a wonderful service on Sunday, May 18! Guitars: Jo Klein, Kurt Schultz; Bass: Mike Wobig; Percussion: Dan Grzywinski; Piano: Conie Borchardt, Barb Jensen; Vocals: Patty Stadem, Wendy Bjorklund, Barb Jensen, Jo Klein.
- You're invited to a voice recital. The students of Lila Olson (of which Conie is one) are combining their talents for a joint recital on Sunday, June 22, 7 p.m. at Roseville Covenant Church. For directions and other questions, see Conie.



## President's Blog

June 2008

Stewardship. Brings lots of different "visions" to each of us. For me, I see "opportunities." I believe that Stewardship is a combination of 4 elements to share: evangelism (share the Word), tithing (share your wealth), talent (share your gifts), and time (share yourself). This year, we will be looking, finding, and identifying the incredible gifts this congregation has to share. You are a mighty congregation in a healthy environment that is stable and growing. We are so strong and "comfortable" that we think we "know" our church. Well, from the discussions at the semi-annual meeting, I believe we need to re-introduce some of our longest-lasting programs and give each of you an opportunity to share. Read the bulletins, save the newsletters, check out the website. There is a lot of information to share with you about "who" St. Luke Lutheran is and then you are encouraged to engage in or share all these programs with others. Some of the time sharing involves an hour.....some longer. I hope you can say yes if I call on you to share your time and talent on stewardship projects throughout the year.

--Sue McNeill



### June Birthdays:

- 3 - ARLENE DRIER
- 5 - BETTY NELSON
- 6 - LUKE STADEM, MIKE WOBIG
- 10 - ANDREW STADEM, FLORENCE NOHA
- 16 - BRIAN SPRAY, EVAN NELSON
- 18 - ALEX GRZYWINSKI
- 21 - PASTOR DAVE
- 22 - GEORGE HERIOT, JEANETTE JOHNSON, DIANE NELSON
- 24 - CHRISTINE OLSON, ALLAN AMLEE
- 25 - JENIFER DRIER
- 27 - SANDI GORDON
- 30 - KARL AND CHARLES GAARDER



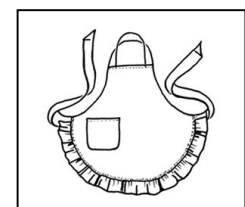
### June Anniversaries:

- 4 - LARRY AND CAROL VIGDAL: 1961
- 7 - LEE AND SHIRLEY JOHNSON: 1952
- 8 - ROGER AND DIANNE DIESTLER: 1963
- 10 - JACK AND ARLENE DRIER: 1961
- 15 - WENDY AND PETER BJORKLUND: 1991  
JANE AND KEN MCGREW: 1991
- 18 - ALLAN AND PHILLIS AMLEE: 1955
- 19 - STEVE AND GWEN BRUMMUND: 1999  
DONALD AND ANN ANNALA: 1948
- 23 - PATRICIA AND MARK STADEM: 1990



**Please Help!** Vacation Bible School is right around the corner (July 27—Aug. 1). It is time to start making plans, and YOU are invited to help! There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jo Klein. Whether you are a seasoned VBS volunteer, or you are a newcomer, we are thrilled to have you on board! We will be discussing class rosters, crafts, music, snacks, games, etc. It takes a lot of people to get this program off the ground each year...please prayerfully consider your part! Interested, but not ready to commit? Then by all means sit in on the meeting, with no obligations, no pressure! **Do join us!**

The Plymouth Playhouse is now serving a second helping of the Church Basement Ladies. If you missed the first Church Basement Ladies now is your chance to see the second helping! Group tickets for St. Luke Lutheran have been reserved for **August 17, at 2:00 pm.** Ticket costs are \$25.00 a ticket and 35 tickets have been reserved. If you are interested in attending this hilarious event, all men and women are invited to reserve their tickets today with a check for your ticket amount and submitted to Nancy Hegdahl, or you may call Nancy at 699-0499 to reserve your tickets. The Plymouth Playhouse is at 2705 Annapolis Lane N., Plymouth, MN, I-494 & Hwy 55, 20 minutes west of downtown Minneapolis. Plans for carpooling are underway!





## Spotlight on...Barb Jensen

I'm the youngest of 4 siblings – my sister Karen is 11 years older than me and lives in Chicago; Eric is 9 years older and lives in Roseville, and Dana is 5 ½ years older and lives in California. I'm divorced and have one son, Dusty, who's 21 years old and attends college at NDSU in Fargo, ND. Many of you are familiar with my parents, Else and Reynold Jacobsen, as they used to visit St. Luke whenever they came to visit Dusty and me. In fact, Dusty and I have my parents to thank for helping us find St. Luke. On one of their visits – about 16 years ago – they suggested we visit this little church by the railroad tracks. I knew I had found my church home that very day. I could tell Dusty felt at home as well. Before we left church, I had already committed to Choir, Bell Choir and Softball. St. Luke members are very persuasive!

I went school in Morgan, MN from Kindergarten through Senior High and then on to college at Southwest State University in Marshall, MN (now known as Southwest Minnesota State University).

My home church growing up was very much like St. Luke. It's called St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, located in Evan, MN (by Sleepy Eye, MN for those of you who might be familiar with southwestern Minnesota). You could say it was almost a country church since Evan is so small it doesn't even have a Post Office – there's less than 100 people living there. St. Matthews is a Danish American church so there's about 80 - 85% of the members whose names end in "sen." There was one tar road in Evan and our church was right next to a farm. When the wind blew the right way (or wrong way, depending on your point of view) in the summer, the church service could be very "fragrant" since we always had the windows open at that time of year. All in all, I have to say I dearly loved growing up in that church – as with St. Luke, you feel embraced by your church family at all times.

My current occupation is in Fleet Management for Ricoh Professional Services, who manufacture, sell and service printers, copiers and fax machines. (Our church printer/copier is a Ricoh). I work on-site at one of our customers (Travelers Insurance) full-time and take care of servicing, training and basic administrative work regarding our devices throughout their buildings. It's a job full of variety and I enjoy it very much.

My interests include singing, playing piano, dancing and drawing. And I love to read...I have several favorites: "To Kill a Mockingbird," "Little Women," "Auntie Mame," to name a few and some favorite authors as well – Patricia Cornwall, Dick Francis, Jane Austen and Steven Thayer (a MN author). The list could go on and on!

My parents were the motivators behind Dusty and me becoming members a little over 16 years ago. I've often told Jo Klein, I gauge the time we started by the fact that Abby was a few months shy of making her appearance in the world. So as long as I can figure out how old Abby is, I can tell how long we've been members. As to what made us stay – that is an extremely easy question to answer: the members of St. Luke are a particularly special group of people. They're caring, supportive, full of fun, full of wisdom and overall the most genuine people I've ever met. When Dusty and I moved to Roseville for 7 years when we needed a larger apartment, we moved to an apartment building directly across the street from a Lutheran church. I stopped in one Sunday to see what it was like and found it lacked the life, the energy and the warmth that St. Luke had. St. Luke has a soul and spirit that is hard to describe and so very rare. There was no need to look further at other churches and there hasn't been since.

My past and current involvements include Choir, Alternative Worship Band, Bible School teacher, Kiddie Room Chair for the Bazaar (currently co-chair with Alex G.), Pancake Breakfasts, Easter Breakfast, Sunday School teacher, Leap of Faith Band, Camp Onomia Retreats, Bell Choir, Softball and Church Council.

The best thing about St. Luke is the people – they're the heart and soul of what makes this church work. I find they are true role models of how Christians should live. I think we work pretty hard in most areas, always trying to improve ourselves. As for myself personally, I can see the need for improvement in my role as a Christian. Religion, for me, is a contradiction in terms at times: very personal, yet very public at the same time. It can be difficult to put my spiritual side out there in the world for everyone to see. However, St. Luke members are good role models. This is an extremely welcoming congregation and guests are always noticed and greeted, never ignored. St. Luke keeps their hearts and minds open to bringing people in from the community and beyond.

I wish for the personality of St. Luke to remain much the same and for it's congregation to remember to believe and continue growing. It will be harder for small churches in the years to come so we have to remember one thing; what we have in this church is a rare thing and should be cherished. To do so, we must continually be aware of what we have and what we must do to maintain it. We don't want to have the day come years from now when we say: "If only we knew what we had back then...if only we appreciated it. Now, it's too late..."

Most of all, keep doing what you're doing, St. Luke. I, for one, am extremely grateful for that day my parents, Dusty and I discovered the little church by the railroad tracks.



### Thank you to our Meals on Wheels volunteers!

March: Alan Baird & Ann Verschoyle, Lee & Shirley Johnson, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Audrey Rongstad, Larry & Carol Vigdal.

April: Alan Baird & Ann Verschoyle, Lee & Shirley Johnson, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Jane McGrew, Audrey Rongstad, Larry & Carol Vigdal, David Elliott.

We would like to thank Louis Billmeyer for his many years of volunteering to deliver Meals on Wheels. After turning 90, Louis decided it was time to retire! Thank you for your time, Louis!

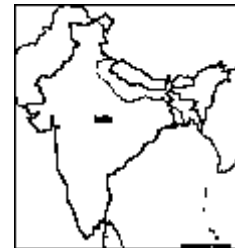
This does leave us needing one more regular volunteer. We deliver the 4th Friday of every month and the time requirement is from 10:45 a.m. to about noon. If you are willing and available to help deliver meals, please talk to Jane McGrew at church, or call her at 651-698-4569.



108 Hungry people were served supper on April 28th at St. Matthew's Church on the West side in the Loaves and Fishes program. Many thanks to our workers: Larry Litzkow, Sandra Berger, Helen Bye, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Thanks also to Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson for baking cookies for the meal.

### India Trip Information

There have been a number of people who have expressed interest in going to India in 2009 or 2010. I will share some information about my ideas for this trip on Thursday, June 19 at 7:00 at church. See all interested people there! If you are interested, but cannot attend on that day, please let me know. - Pastor Dave



### What is Fare For All?

Fresh, high quality, nutritious groceries at a big savings are available every month for anyone who wishes to participate. Fresh fruits and vegetables, frozen meats of all kinds and a variety of non-perishable staple items: that is what Fare For All is all about. Our church is a distribution point where you may place an order, then pick up our order the month thereafter. Check the church calendar for the time and the Saturday it takes place each month. For further info, you may call the Fare For All organization at 763-450-3880 or refer to the website at [www.fareforall.org](http://www.fareforall.org).



**New Member Sunday is June 1.  
Come and celebrate as we welcome  
our new members to St. Luke!**

### June Acolytes:



- Acolytes
- 1 – Sam Nodler
- 8 – Sol Holmly
- 15- Andrew Stadem
- 22 – Riley Miller
- 29 – Connor McGough



On Sunday, June 8 we will honor recent graduates from high school. Come, congratulate and honor these young people and give them a word of encouragement as they begin a new chapter in their lives!

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