



St. Luke Lutheran Church
 1807 Field Avenue
 St. Paul, MN 55116
 Phone: 651-698-9443
www.stluke-church.com

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Parish Times

Volume III; Issue III, March 2007



Thoughts From Pastor Juli....

I've been at St. Luke for almost a month now, and I'm beginning to feel like I have the rhythm of the place. I don't yet have names for all the faces, but I'm beginning to get a sense of who is related to whom, and to know whom to call for various problems.

I want to take this opportunity to start mapping out what I see happening over the next several months. I see my call here as having two parts: providing basic pastoral care (preaching, administering sacraments, visiting the sick, teaching confirmation) and helping the congregation articulate your vision for the way ahead.

I have begun calling on members of the congregation, using the very scientific method of starting on page one of the directory. This is both to help me get to know you, as your pastor, so that I can minister and preach more effectively, and also to begin the conversations that we will be having about the strengths of the congregation, where we feel called to serve, and how we can start moving forward in ministry.

I have really limited time in the evenings, so if there are other times that you can meet with me, I would be appreciative. While it is always fun and informative to meet with families in their homes, I also realize that, especially with children in the household, it can be difficult to find a time that the whole family is available. One other possibility, for some members, would be for me to meet you at work, for lunch or a coffee break. I have enjoyed the times I have done this in the past, as it gives me a whole new insight into people's lives.

I was delighted at the number and variety of people who volunteered to be on the "Mission Profile" team. I'm thrilled that there is so much energy and enthusiasm in the congregation for thinking about these issues.



March Readers:

4 – Wendy Bjorklund

11 – Mike Hegdahl

18 – Larry Vigdal

25 – Cathy/Maggie Erickson



Many thanks to our Meals on Wheels for January 26th: Al Baird, Ann Verschoyle, Lee and Shirley Johnson, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Louis Billmeyer, Jane and Eddie McGrew, Bill Klotz, Betty Nelson and Audrey Rongstad.



Kira Faust is in cosmetology school at the Regency Beauty Institute in Burnsville. As her training progresses she will need volunteers on whom she can perform certain salon services. On March 16th Kira needs to give a volunteer a permanent wave. The Perm is FREE and she will be directly supervised and graded by her instructor. If interested please call Kira @ 651-690-2518.



Usher Notes...

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

Our ushers for **March** will be: Eva Mac Niven, Grant Mongin, Carl Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson and Katy Eggert



“This will be a big deal.”

-Paul Douglas, WCCO, February 23rd

The Sunday School retreat has been rescheduled for March 16-18 due to the predicted impending snow storm. We need a new headcount, so please sign up on the kiosk (again!) so we can get the numbers to Camp O. *It will be just as much fun in March, to be sure!*



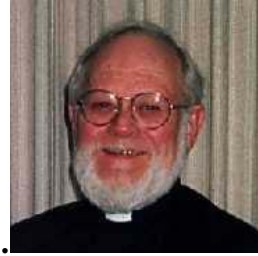
Spotlight on...Doug Wasko

I was born in St. Paul and baptized in Trinity Lutheran Church which was located at that time close to the State Capitol. We lived in the housing provided by Trinity Lutheran Church school. I attended first and second grade at the church school and remembered how discipline was given by the teacher using a ruler across the knuckles. We later moved to the West 7th area where I attended Davis Elementary school (now demolished) and was confirmed at St. Peter's Lutheran. I graduated from Monroe High School where I participated in football, hockey, golf and wrestling. My passion then and now is physical fitness and music (playing the guitar, keyboard and accordion).

After graduation I worked for the Great Northern Railroad in freight traffic before joining the Marine Corp. I served with a guard detachment in Nevada guarding the atomic bomb. When my tour of duty ended, I attended River Falls Wisconsin State College and then the University of Minnesota. I graduated with a B.S. and Masters in education. While enrolled in the Masters program I worked for the U of M in student personnel as a program consultant at the Coffman Student Center, and later served in this capacity at Macalester College, Western State College in Bellingham, Washington and Augsburg College. I later entered the insurance business.

I've been a member of St. Luke for 46 years and therefore served in many different capacities from President of the congregation, teaching Sunday School, chairing the committee to purchase our pipe organ, and etc.

I have found St. Luke to be a warm, caring church family – a family that stretches out it's arms to all people with unconditional love and concern. My wife, Karen, and our three children have been blessed to have had St. Luke church in our lives.



Thank you, thank you, thank you all...

Arlene and I would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone for a day that we will always cherish. To those who worked to create this wonderful memory, we would like to say "well done". To all who contributed to honor us with the magnificent gifts, we are overwhelmed by your generosity and thoughtfulness. We will enjoy and celebrate them for years to come. Bret's autographed jersey is mounted on our mantle above the fireplace. The financial gift will help to purchase a Kevlar Canoe and the gift certificates will be used for many a romantic night out. The program, the pictures, the comments--or as some say "roast"--the songs and the multitude of well wishes and "God blesses" will last a lifetime. In all it reminded me, as my good friend Bill Klotz does so often, that "God takes care of us whether we know it or not". When I accepted what I thought would be an "Interim" position 24 years ago I didn't know that God had found a home for me. But He had, and St. Luke was a home and a family to care for and in turn be cared for by them. Cared for we were by a family of faith that became for us a family in fact. It was often my experience to leave a home or a hospital room or a worship service and wonder who had ministered to whom. You are truly what Christ intended as he spoke in the Gospel of John 13, "By this all will know that you are my disciples as you love one another". I have had the honor to have served you for this many years and I and Arlene have been blessed by the privilege. You have a legacy of being a blessing to those who are your Pastors (maybe that's why we stay so long) that I am sure will continue for years to come. I will not try to express what you all mean to me except to say "I will think of you often and forget you never". Keep Arlene and I and our family in your prayers as we hold you in ours and remember: it's a small world and our paths will cross now and forever. Thank you for one "hell of a great journey". God Bless you in Christ. -Pastor Jack



Question: what does the weight "1000 pounds" mean to you?

- a. it's a very large horse
- b. it's a very small elephant
- c. it's several Harley Davidson's
- d. it's a way to help

As a member of St. Luke, you know the best answer is "d" because 1000 pounds is the amount of food this church collected last year during March, Minnesota's Foodshare month. All of the food was given to our neighborhood food shelf, St. Francis Basket. Well, March is here again and so is Foodshare month. I wish I could say the need was less, but I can't. I wish I could say the shelves were more full, but I can't. I can say this is an incredibly generous congregation, willing to share what it has. I hope that we can match last year's 1000 pound food donation because we know it's a way to help. There will be a table in the social hall during the month of March where you may place your donations. Watch for updates in the bulletin as we move toward our goal. Thank you! --Wendy Bjorklund, Social Action Commissioner

March Birthdays:



1 - JEFF SILTBERG
3 - ABIGAIL WINECKE
4 - CARL ELLIOTT
6 - CONNELL MCGOUGH, SUSAN LORENZ, MARK STADEM
7 - JUDY SALABA, KEVIN BRANDT
8 - NORMAN RONGSTAD
10 - GWEN COATES, JOE LUTY JR, LOIS PORTER
11 - JOHN JUNDT
12 - BETTY HOARD
13 - DAVID VERSCHOYLE
14 - GEORGE GROBE
15 - DONALD ANNALA
18 - JACOB ARNDT
19 - LUCY LIPSCOMB, SAM LIPSCOMB, TARYN PAULSON, TONYA PAULSON
22 - ALEX KLEIN
24 - MICHAEL FABIE
26 - SHERIDAN MOORE
30 - ERIC NELSON
31 - JULIE GAARDER, ROBYN RONGSTAD

March Anniversaries:



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



Lenten Midweek Services

Theme:

**“Standing on Holy Ground:
Some Inconvenient Lenten Truths”**

Creation and Earth Stewardship

Titles for each week come from the Hymn of Light in Holden Evening Prayer.

Topics, dates, locations, preachers:

Feb. 28 – at Pilgrim – “You Who Sing Creation’s Story”
Pastor John Marboe from Immanuel

March 7 – at Immanuel – “God of Daybreak, God of Shadows”
Ned Hayes, Pastoral Intern from Pilgrim

March 14 – at Pilgrim – “In the Stars That Grace the Darkness”
Pastor Joy Bussert from Immanuel

March 21 – at Immanuel – “In the Light of Peace and Freedom”
Pastor Carol Tomer from Pilgrim

March 28 – at Pilgrim – “Set us Free and Make us Whole”
Pastor Julia Thompson from St. Luke

Each week: soup supper at 6 pm, worship at 7 pm, using Holden Evening Prayer



Now that we have purchased and are using the new red hymnals (ELW), what will happen to the old green hymnals (LBW)? Good news! If you funded an LBW in memory or honor of a loved one, it’s yours if you want it. The hymnals with dedications are set aside in the library. If you would like to have a copy of the LBW for your use at home, be our guest; it’s yours for the taking! Enjoy!

--The Worship Committee



Notes From Conie...

There will be a Worship and Music Meeting on Sunday, March 11 after worship. We will be selecting hymns for the coming weeks, as well as discussing different aspects of our worship services. These meetings are open to all...do join us!



A Word From St. Luke Church Historian, Helen Klein:

(Oh, you didn't know we had an Historian? Well, read on!)

One of Pastor Jack's many contributions to our church was to insure that we had a ways and means to record and document our church history.

Many years ago, when we were celebrating our 75th Anniversary of St. Luke, Roger and Dianne Diestler asked the congregation to bring pictures and articles of earlier happenings and events at the church. So, I brought my scrapbook, with pictures and articles dating back to 1931.

Among the materials are: our Mission Festivals with St. John's in Nicols, Minnesota...Junior and Senior Luther League activities, picnics, plays, hay and sleigh rides, etc....Sunday School picnics at many different places--yes, even up at "Lover's Lane", bounded by Sheridan, Wordsworth and Cleveland; always races and ball games; I can still see the ladies rolling the lemons for lemonade to put in those great big crocks, and all the watermelon you could eat.

After some time and discussion, Adeline Boicourt and I were delegated by Pastor Jack to be Historians of St. Luke. SO...if you have any photos, articles or info you would like to have archived and recorded in our official historical records, please submit the data to us. Please be sure to label and date your materials, and include your name. Thank you! --Helen Klein

Announcing an Important Event for All Reconciling In Christ Congregations



Faces of Faith: A Passion for Inclusion

The Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus presents *Faces of Faith: A Passion for Inclusion* in conjunction with *One in Spirit*, the second in the 2006-07 concert series on Saturday, March 31. *Faces of Faith* will consist of a keynote address followed by a series of workshops centered on stories of struggle in the GLBT faith community.

Schedule:

- 1:00-2:00 pm: Keynote Address by Bishop John Shelby Spong
- 2:30-4:00 pm: Workshop Series #1
- 4:00-4:15 pm: Break
- 4:30-5:45 pm: Workshop Series #2
- 8:00 pm: TCGMC Concert "One in Spirit"

>>Discussion topics will include: stories of struggle, openly gay clergy, follow-up exchange to keynote address, responding to the religious right, intentional outreach and cutting edge congregations.

>>Each workshop will be presented twice so that participants may attend two sessions of their choice.

>>**Order tickets online at www.tcgmc.org.**