



St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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# St. Luke Lutheran Church

## Parish Times April 2008



### ***Fish Bait and Jonah the Reluctant Prophet***

Ever been swallowed by a whale and lived to tell of it?

Have you ever been a reluctant prophet, or reluctant sharer of God's Word?

Yes, no, maybe so?

No matter your answer, you will find points of interest and similar life experiences with Jonah, the fish bait and reluctant prophet whom God used to share his word of grace, hope and salvation. If you would like to join this Bible study of Jonah--and even if you take a Jonah-like attitude and DON'T want to join this Bible study--sign up and join us! It will last just a short four weeks, meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, and 20. We may even have treats... Sign up at the kiosk. See you there!



### **April Readers:**

- 6 - Sue McNeill**
- 13 - Jeff Kingsley**
- 20 - Wendy Bjorklund**
- 27 - Sandi Gordon**

### *April Communion Assistants*



- 6: Joan Wilson**
- 20 - Shantel Steen**



Canoe Trips - both youth and adult: the weather is warming up and thoughts are turning to canoe trips! Are there youth interested in going on a canoe trip this summer? How 'bout the adults: are you interested in going on a canoe trip, too? When is a good time? How many would like to go? It is best to begin planning now so that we can reserve a good time and place in the BWCA. For those interested in going please sign up at the kiosk.



### **Usher Notes...**

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

**Our ushers for April will be:** Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Alex Klein, Audrey McNamara, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird



## *Thoughts from Pastor Dave:*

“You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

As most of you know, I was a missionary in Japan for many years and continue to be interested in overseas mission. Like the early Christians in Acts, we in St. Luke are called to mission in the Highland Park area, Minnesota, the U.S. and the world. At the March church council meeting I introduced three ideas for being in mission in the world. The council has agreed to begin exploring these ideas and I would like to share them with you. I want to stress that these are just in the exploratory stages.

1. Every year the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Association (JELA, a Lutheran foundation) in cooperation with the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors Japanese youth (ages 15-20) to come to the United States for two weeks to take part in a Group Workcamp and do homestays (of about a week) in a U.S. Lutheran church. I would like to invite them to St. Luke for their homestays in the summer of 2009 or 2010. If they came next year they would arrive about July 27, 2009, do five days of homestays here, then go to a workcamp for six days. Upon returning from the workcamp, they would stay for two more nights with St. Luke families, then return to Japan (It would be the same basic schedule and time frame in 2010). Some of these youth may be Christians, some will not be Christians (less than 1% of the people in Japan are Christians). This is a wonderful way for us to participate in world mission right here in our own church. Hopefully, our youth could go with the Japanese youth to the workcamp. Our main task would be to provide homestays for them (about 10 youth). Costs to St. Luke would be minimal (maybe a barbeque?). I will be contacting JELA about the possibilities of St. Luke providing homestays in 2009 or 2010.

2. A micro-lending group here at St. Luke. A friend of mine belongs to a micro-lending group at his church. They meet four times a year for dinner, then check an internet site for their lending organization (they use Kiva) to find which people/projects they would like to sponsor. For example, one project was a farmer in Kenya who needed a refrigerator for \$750.00. The group could choose to give some money, for example, \$25.00 towards that loan. When there is a total of \$750.00 from enough people giving towards the loan, the loan would be made to the farmer (Kiva takes care of all of that). He would then have a certain amount of time to pay it back. A person can give as much or as little as they wish, and since it is a loan, it eventually comes back. You can then choose to lend it out again to a new project, or get your money back. What is beautiful about this system is that a little money goes a long way, and it is paid back. It is a wonderful way to help people help themselves and can have a significant impact. If there are enough of you who would like to try this out, we can begin such a group here at St. Luke.

3. A trip to the Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP) in Jamkhed, India ( [www.jamkhed.org](http://www.jamkhed.org) ) in the fall of 2009 or 2010. I was involved with this project during the time I was in Japan and visited there 6-7 times. I also led three workcamps of Japanese volunteers to CRHP. This trip would be paid for by the individual people participating in the trip. I would pay my own expenses also. There would be no cost to St. Luke. CRHP was begun over thirty years ago by Dr. Raj and Maybelle Arole, two Indian doctors who trained at John Hopkins University Hospital. They were asked to stay at John Hopkins, but felt called by their faith to return to serve the poorest of the poor in India. Their work is absolutely inspiring. When I think of the work, “miraculous” is the word that comes to mind. I have learned in a very concrete way from Dr. Arole that ALL things are possible in and through Christ. Check out their web site. This trip would be for those who wish to go. I simply want to make this possible for anyone who is interested. I will be happy to share information and give a presentation about CRHP for anyone who is interested. Please let me know!

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and questions about any of these three ideas. It is good to be in ministry with you.

Pastor David Person



## President's Blog

April 2008

I was honored to coordinate and attend the 2008 Regional Spelling Bee on March 13 at the MN History Center. Our metro area will be represented at the National Bee in Wash. D.C. in May by a 13 year old boy named He Li (pronounced "Ha Lee") from Eden Prairie. He arrived in the U.S. when he was five. He won this English spelling bee just 8 years later. There were 28 students aged 10-14. He persevered after almost 3 hours of spelling words chosen from a list of at least 250 words. His mother didn't want him to go to the Bee. He had a fever and wasn't feeling well, but he told his mom he "had" to go. I was amazed by his focus on the task to be done, while feeling so ill. I'm sure I will think of He the next time I have a challenge when I'm feeling less than great. (By the way, I would have been eliminated in Round 2. Those words were hard!) And just to show what a small world it is, the photographer for the Star Tribune happened to be Jeff Wheeler. Jeff was in the group of teens I took to Houston in the 70s for a Luther League convention! It's always a joy to meet a former St. Luke student.

--Sue McNeill

## April Birthdays:



- 1 - JOAN HOLTZ
- 2 - BETH PETERSON
- 3 - BARBJENSEN
- 4 - CARL GOERS
- 5 - DAVID ELLIOTT
- 6 - TOM GAARDER, JOSHUA STADEM
- 7 - MICHAEL ARNDT
- 11 - SAMUEL ELLIOTT
- 13 - LEROY RONGSTAD
- 14 - LARRY VIGDAL
- 15 - RILEY MILLER
- 18 - PASTOR JACK
- 21 - TRACY ARNDT
- 24 - JOHN FABIE
- 26 - ABBY KLEIN, GLADYS BYRNES
- 30 - EDDIE MCGREW

## April Anniversaries:



- 11 - DAVID ELLIOTT  
AND SUSAN LORENZ: 1990



Hey,  
Youth...mark your  
calendars for Saturday,  
April 12...we will once be  
participating in the annual  
St. Paul Parks Clean-up  
Day at 8:30, with lunch to  
follow. Watch  
forthcoming emails for  
specifics. Join us!

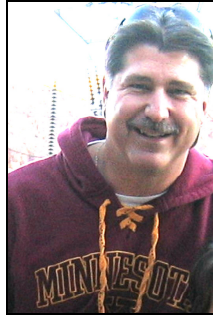
**Our heartfelt  
appreciation to  
our Bun Run  
Volunteers for  
March: Nancy  
Hegdahl, the  
McGough  
family, Jeff  
Kingsley, Ken  
McGrew and  
Julie  
Ellingson.**



100 Hungry people  
were served at the  
Loaves and Fishes site  
on Monday, Feb. 25th.  
They even ate the heels  
of the loaves of bread!  
Many thanks to our  
workers: Larry  
Litzkow, Dwight  
Paulson, Helen Bye,  
Sandy Berger, Ann  
Verschoyle and Eva  
Mac Niven. Thanks  
also to Audrey  
Rongstad and Donna for  
baking cookies.



## Spotlight on...



**Kurt Schultz**

I was born Feb. 2, 1963 in Santa Barbara, CA. My Dad was working as an engineer at the time. Both my Dad, Paul, and my Mom, Arlene, are from the Chicago area originally. They are now living in Wahpeon, North Dakota. Dad is a retired college professor and my Mom worked in the hospital in admissions. I have two brothers. John and his wife Janet live in Fargo, ND. They are both pharmacists. Mike lives in Moorhead, Minnesota with his wife Judy and their two children, Joe and Christy. Mike is an X-ray Technician and Judy is a nurse.

My wife Holly and I live in Lakeville with our 3 children, Alec (18), Ellen (16), and Wyatt (10).

I went to school in Wahpeton, ND and graduated in 1981 then attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND. I graduated with a B.S. degree in aviation. I am currently an Air Traffic Controller and work at the Air Route Traffic Control Center in Farmington. We work the traffic for the upper Midwest and my area covers the airspace to the east including arrivals and departures from Chicago.

I have many hobbies but I have a passion for fly fishing for trout in the mountains of the west. I also have become an avid triathlete, participating in numerous races throughout the summer.

Holly and I were married at St. Luke 24 years ago next August and have been coming to St. Luke since we moved back to the Twin Cities.

I'm always involved in kitchen activities and helping out with the Bazaar. I especially enjoy making omelets for the Easter Breakfast.

The best thing about St. Luke is it's size. It feels like a small town church in a big urban community where everyone knows each other.



Plans are underway for the new 2008 church directory! Photo dates will be April 21<sup>st</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. *Reserve your appointment time as soon as possible!* Each family/household that comes for photography and portrait viewing at the church will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 portrait. You will be able to view and select your portraits from a variety of poses. Additional portraits will be available for purchase. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour. Any questions? Contact Mike Hegdahl at 651-699-0499 or Sue McNeill at 651-688-8176, or email Sue at [ssmcneill@hotmail.com](mailto:ssmcneill@hotmail.com).

### April Acolytes:



- 6 – Connel McGough
- 13 – Sam Elliott
- 20 – Michael Arndt
- 27 – Jordan Brandt



## Notes from Conie:

-- During our Lenten journey and Easter Sunday celebrations, we were treated to the wonderful musical talent in our community. Specifically, we thank: Abby Winecke, piano; Jo Klein, guitar; the adult choir; the Sunday School children; the bell choir; Peter Klein and Connell McGough, trumpets. Please see Conie if you'd like to contribute your musical talents in any way.

-- Easter welcomes more than our Alleluia's back in our vocabulary. Wednesday evening Super Soup Suppers are back on our church calendar too! Please join us for fellowship over a bowl of food at 6 p.m.

-- After worship on Sunday, April 13, the Worship and Music Committee will be selecting hymns for the post-Pentecost summer season. Please join us with your cup of coffee in the choir loft of the sanctuary.

-- Calling all Worship Band members! We will be leading worship on the last day of Sunday School, May 18. Music and practice schedule will be coming soon. Please let Jo and Conie know if you can participate!

-- Dear kind members of St. Luke -- Thank you for lifting up my family with your prayers recently at the passing of my grandmother. The sympathy cards and flowers were a warm testament to the wonderful close-knit community here. Thank you.

-- What are some of the favorite hymns of St. Luke members? Here's the first quarter of the list, in alpha order: Abide with me; Amazing Grace; As the Grains of Wheat; Beautiful Savior; Blessed Assurance; Blessing and Honor; Blest be the Tie that Binds; Borning Cry; Break Now the Bread of Life; Bring on the Rain (Mercy Me); Built on a Rock the Church Doth Stand; Children of the Heavenly Father; Down by the Riverside; Earth and All Stars; Eat This Bread; Eternal Father, Strong to Save; For the Beauty of the Earth.

-- Spring is here and music is in the air! Here are two programs that a few of your St. Luke friends will be presenting. We hope you can attend!

**1.) CORO!** Diane May, bell choir director, and Conie Borchardt, organist/choir director, invite you to hear CORO! – the Twin Cities' only chorus dedicated to performance of choral and ensemble masterpieces from great works of opera and theater. CORO!'s mission is to provide singers with large, colorful voices the opportunity to fully develop their God given vocal gifts in a choral setting. Our program, SAINTS and SINNERS IN OPERA, explores the cosmic battle between good and evil with excerpts from Gounod's FAUST, Offenbach's TALES OF HOFFMANN and Puccini's TOSCA; and for a lighter look at the subject – selections from PIRATES OF PENZANCE, PATIENCE, and RUDDIGORE by Gilbert & Sullivan. For information contact CORO! Executive Director: Lila Olson, (763) 287-8033, or [lila\\_olson@mac.com](mailto:lila_olson@mac.com)

### Performances:

>>>7:00 PM, Saturday, April 26, 2008, Roseville Covenant Church, 2865 N. Hamline Ave., Roseville; map and directions at: [www.rosecovchurch.org](http://www.rosecovchurch.org).

>>>7:00 PM, Sunday, April 27, 2008, 105 Forestview Lane N., Plymouth; Map and directions at: [www.stmaryofthelakeeply.org](http://www.stmaryofthelakeeply.org)

### Tickets:

Advance sales: \$12 Adults /\$8 Seniors & Students (age 12 & up)

At the door: \$15 Adults / \$10 Seniors & Students (age 12 & up)

**2.) Masterworks Chorale of Augsburg** presents "Spirited French, English and Friends" a program of accompanied and a cappella choral works on Sun, Apr 6, 2008, 7 p.m. at Normandale Lutheran Church (6100 Normandale Road, Edina). For tickets (\$15 general admission; \$10 for seniors and students) and other information, please contact Conie.

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