



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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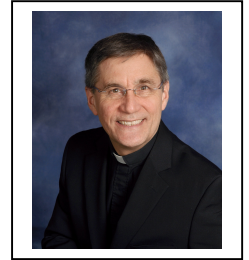
Open doors, open hearts, open minds.

Parish Times June 2014

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
 Isaiah 55:1a

Mass Distribution of Produce

On Monday, August 11 from about 10-3:00 (times may change slightly so watch for future notices) St. Luke will sponsor a mass distribution of FREE produce (fruits and vegetables) at the Francis Basket in Sibley Manor. ANYONE may come to this event to receive produce free of charge. There will be several mass distributions during the summer at Francis Basket (May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8), but at our semi-annual meeting in May, we voted to sponsor the distribution on Monday, August 11. That means on August 11 St. Luke will provide 15-20 volunteers to help set up tents, put food on pallets for the distribution, and give the food to people. We will be on our feet, bending, twisting, and hauling food. The food will be donated by Second Harvest Heartland Food Bank. Part of our sponsorship (besides providing volunteers) will be to pay one penny for each pound of food donated (usually about 12,000-15,000 pounds of produce – which comes to \$120-150.00, which St. Luke will pay). The staff at the Francis Basket will be there to help direct our efforts. This will be a one-time sponsorship for us, so please, come and help. What a great cause! ANYONE can come and receive produce FREE! Come help! The sign-up is on the kiosk.



Our heartfelt to our Bun Run volunteers for May: Julie Ellingson, Doug and Jo Klein, Mike Hegdahl, Joan Wilson and Ken McGrew.



123 Hungry people came out on the rainy night of April 28th for a hot and spicy supper of chili at St. Matthew's Catholic church on the West Side. Workers were Pastor Dave, Larry Litzkow, Roger and Dianne Diestler, Joyce Bluel, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven.



Ladies Night Out – Ladies Night Out in June will take place on Tuesday, June 17th at Tavern on Grand, 656 Grand Avenue in St. Paul at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in car pooling, please meet at church at 5:00 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) if you are planning on attending by Sunday, June 8th so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.

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





How To Plant Your Garden

First, you come to the garden alone,
while the dew is still on the roses.

For the Garden of your Daily Living, plant three rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

To conclude your garden, you must have thyme:

1. Thyme for God
2. Thyme for each other
3. Thyme for family
4. Thyme for friends

**Water freely with patience and cultivate
with love. You will have much to harvest
in your garden because you reap what
you sow. Not bad, huh?!**



Lawn Service

Could summer *really* be here? After that spring, it felt like it would never come. But it is summer indeed and so time for the Lawn Service! Bring your chairs, chaise lounges, blankets on Sunday, June 22 as we meet outside for worship on the east lawn. Let's join our voices with the rustling wind and chirping birds as we all sing praises to our Lord.

Scholarships are available to any St. Luke member attending a Lutheran College. **The deadline for Fall Semester 2014 is July 1, 2014.** The deadline for Spring Semester 2015 is November 1, 2014. Please contact Ruth Carlson to get instructions and an application for qualification.



April Financial Report:

Envelopes and Loose Offering	11,711.75
Thrivent and Use of Building	<u>258.00</u>
General Fund Receipts	11,969.75
General Fund Disbursements	13,178.84
Designated Fund Receipts	5,034.00
Designated Fund Disbursements	2,406.48





June Birthdays

- 2 – Lynda Mathison
- 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, 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
- 8 - Roger And Dianne Diestler: 1963
- 15 - 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



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for May: Matthew Brummund, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser, Tom Gaarder. Our ushers for June will be: Eva Mac Niven, Jim Kroeschel, Doug Nelson, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Pam Ballis, Katy Eggert.

June Readers:



- 1 – Laurie Herrmann
- 8 – Joyce Bluel
- 15 – Beth Peterson
- 22 – Joe Ward
- 29 – Wendy Bjorklund



June Acolytes:

- 1 – Maggie Erickson
- 15 – Michaela McGough



New Members Are Joining

New Member Sunday

We will welcome new members to St. Luke on Sunday, June 15. If you would like to join St. Luke, please talk to Pastor Dave. Mark your calendar, come and welcome our new members!



Vacation

Bible School is scheduled for July 9, 10, 11 (Wednesday-Friday) from 5:30-8:00 pm each day. The theme is: "God is love." The first day will center on "God loves me." The second day's theme is "God loves you (our neighbor)." And the third day we will learn about how God loves this whole world, the creation. VBS is for children age 4 to sixth graders. I need teachers, craft people, helpers for games and food. And if you would like to take a walk with me on a day in June to distribute pamphlets, I would love it! Or...if you wish to pass out pamphlets on your own, I can give you a bunch with a particular street or neighborhood in mind. Also, during VBS we will begin each day with a simple meal. If you can help donate/ prepare a meal (for example, hot dogs, burgers, pizza, etc) or help in any other way, please see Pr. Dave.

101

During St. Luke's 101st year of existence, I am doing a number of articles of some of the basics of our faith. Here is Baptism 101.

Read "The Sacrament of Holy Baptism" found in the Small Catechism (you can find it in our red ELW (book of worship) p. 1164.

Baptism is instituted by God. It contains God's command (Matthew 28:19), the Lord's promise (Matthew 28:20) and an earthly element (water). We are not baptized by the pastor, but rather baptized by God. It is God's action. As Luther wrote in the Large Catechism, "To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by men but by God himself. Although it is performed by men's hands, it is nevertheless truly God's own act." Baptism is God's Word of promise combined with the water to wash us clean, drown the old sinful Adam or Eve, and raise us up to new life.

The liturgy for Holy Baptism is found on p. 227 of the ELW. Promises are made during baptism, found on page 228 in the ELW. Why do parents or baptismal candidates make these promises?

Baptism is the beginning of a living relationship with God. It is not a one-time event. It is a new birth, like a child being born. With the birth begins the important work of feeding, caring for, and nurturing that child. Our relationship with God (through faith) also needs to be nurtured. If the faith of the child or adult is not nurtured, the baptismal promise remains, but may not be seen by the person. As Luther wrote in the Large Catechism, "Let us observe further who receives these gifts and benefits of Baptism. This again is most beautifully and clearly expressed in these same words, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved," (Mark 16:16) that is, faith alone makes the person worthy to receive the salutary, divine water profitably. Since these blessings are offered and promised in the words which accompany the water, they cannot be received unless we believe them whole-heartedly. Without faith Baptism is of no use, although in itself it is an infinite, divine treasure. So this single expression, "He who believes," is so potent that it excludes and rejects all works that we may do with the intention of meriting salvation through them. For it is certain that whatever is not faith contributes nothing toward salvation, and receives nothing." Luther goes on writing, "Thus you see plainly that Baptism is not a work which we do but is a treasure which God gives us and faith grasps, just as the Lord Christ upon the cross is not a work but a treasure comprehended and offered to us in the Word and received by faith."

Does this mean that baptism loses its effectiveness if we do not live it out or receive it by faith? No, it means that because of lack of faith, the person is unable to recognize and receive the gifts found in baptism. Faith is vital.

The whole congregation promises to nurture the people who are baptized. We all have a part in that. If a child is baptized in this church, we promise to help raise that child in the faith (ELW P. 228 bottom of the page). If the parents do not attend worship faithfully, it is the duty of each of us to fulfill our promise and encourage the parent(s) to bring their child(ren) to worship.

Luther urged people to live out their baptism. Luther urged people to remember their baptism daily, to be drown in the waters of baptism daily, to drown the old Adam or Eve, that is sin, and to be lifted up from the waters to new life. Luther encourages us, upon waking and before going to sleep to make the sign of the cross ("In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit") or ("God is in my mind, God is in my heart, to the left of me, to the right of me" –God has me wrapped up in his arms of love) and remember our baptism. We make the sign of the cross to remember the cross traced in oil on our forehead when we were baptized. We remember that God is our strength, our hope and our salvation. Through baptism, sin, death, and the devil have been defeated and there we find our strength. Therefore when Luther was confronted by the devil, he didn't rely upon the strength of his own faith (for example, saying, "Begone Satan, I have strong faith!"), No, instead he relied on God's strength through his baptism simply saying, "I am baptized!" Let that same strength be yours throughout this life and into the next. I am baptized!

--Pr. Dave

This is My Church, too!"

I was the pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Zimmerman, MN from 1992-2000. During that time we redecorated our sanctuary, including ripping up the old carpeting, which had been glued down to the concrete floor. Because it was glued, we had to get down on our hands and knees and scrape off whatever didn't come up when we ripped it off the floor. It was very labor intensive work. One day I found Emma, who was in her 80's, on her hands and knees scraping away at the floor with a putty knife. I said, "Emma, you don't have to do that." Her quick and forceful retort was, "This is my church too!" She continued scraping...and I let her! But I will never forget that moment. She loved that church and would do anything she could for it. I want to thank all of you who work so hard for St. Luke. There are people who come here and quietly fix, clean, straighten up, or whatever else needs to be done, with little or no fanfare. Thank you. Thank you to all who, when you see something that needs to be swept up, or wiped off, or straightened out, take a few minutes to do it, knowing that this is your church too. We all make it a little better when we take the time and effort to do that. Thank you so much.
--Pr. Dave



Musings from the Music Director

Gifts of summer music needed! Please consider sharing your musical gifts during the summer worship services at St. Luke Lutheran Church. In the words of **Igor Stravinsky**:

"The Church knew what the psalmist knew: Music praises God. Music is well or better able to praise him than the building of the church and all its decoration; it is the Church's greatest ornament."

Everyone is welcome to participate! Please sign up on the Summer music sheet located on the Kiosk in the Fellowship Room.

Special Thank You: *I want to thank the members of the Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Praise Band for the generous gift I received at the end-of-the-year potluck. Given my current circumstances, It was extremely helpful! It has been my honor and sincere privilege creating music for the worship services with all of you this past year. Thank you for unselfishly and generously volunteering your musical talents and gifts at St. Luke Lutheran Church. Enjoy the summer!*

Volunteers needed to sing the Psalm

during the worship service on Sunday mornings. The Psalm tone is very easy to learn and sing. Please let me know if you are interested! I will rehearse with you and make sure you are comfortable leading the Psalm.

Sometimes it's not
the **SONG** that makes
you emotional...
it's the people and
things that come to
your mind when you
hear it...

Blessings,

Cammy Horne, Director of Music

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