



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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St. Luke Lutheran Church

Parish Times

November 2010

"We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks; your name is near.

People tell of your wondrous deeds." –Psalm 75:1

Can it be... can it possibly be November? Some of us are still wondering what happened to summer! And yet the calendar nudges us on to reality. November. This is the time when we traditionally give thanks, especially to our God who gives us all. In fact this month is also the time for the beginning of Advent (can you believe it?)! With the coming of Advent we know Christmas is just around the corner. But before all of that, let us pause to give thanks to our loving God for all of God's wondrous deeds. Let us remember that we not only give thanks for possessions, food and family. We also give thanks for all of God's wondrous deeds, such as being born as a tiny baby in Bethlehem, for you and me. Jesus, born to be a light for our lives which no darkness can overcome. Jesus, who through word and deed brings peace and hope to all people. Jesus, who comes to you and me saying, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32) Yes, as the psalmist wrote, God's name is indeed near, it is as near as "Immanuel", which means "God with you." Jesus, Immanuel, God with you, to bring you hope and peace. Loving God, thank you that you are always near.

Come worship the Lord!

Pr. Dave



There will be a lock-in on Friday, November 12 beginning at 7 p.m. It will last until 10 a.m. Saturday morning. Sign up on the kiosk!

Be sure to attend our semi-annual meeting on Sunday, Nov. 7 after worship. Let your voices be heard!



Many thanks to our Meals on Wheels volunteers for September: Al Baird, Ann Verschoyle, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Audrey Rongstad, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Jane McGrew, David Elliott and Julie Gaarder.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox Drive

"Every shoe box offers an opportunity to share the Good News of the Savior with a hurting child." Franklin Graham, President of Samaritan's Purse

This Christmas season, would you like to make a difference in a young person's life? You can by participating in Operation Christmas Child. Simply pack a shoebox with small gifts and toiletries for a child aged 2-14 (you choose the age/gender of the child).

The shoeboxes are distributed by Samaritan's Purse to children in need around the world. Our confirmation aged youth will each fill a shoebox in November and will be working at the local warehouse preparing those boxes for shipment in December.

Brochures with instructions/lists for filling the shoe boxes will be available in Fellowship Hall on the table next to the "Portals of Prayer" booklets beginning Sunday, October 31. Filled shoe boxes are due to church no later than Sunday, November 14 (there will be a table in the Fellowship Hall). This is a fun project for all ages and really gets my family in a Christmas mood every year. See me for more details.
—Wendy Bjorklund



Spotlight on...Leandra

I was born in River Falls, WI, but spent the majority of my childhood in Rochester. My dad is a computer programmer at IBM, while my mom is a stay-at-home, homeschooling mom. I am the eldest child in my family and, until recently, had two younger siblings. Last year, however, my parents adopted a sibling group of three, so now I have five younger siblings, ranging in age from eight to eighteen. I was homeschooled all the way through high school, after which I attended the University of St. Thomas and received a BA in Music and Catholic Studies.

One major life experience was living in Germany for two years while my dad was on assignment with IBM. During this time I was 11-13 years old. My family traveled extensively, visiting a total of twenty-three countries. It was a wonderful experience, of which I have very fond memories!

My family is Catholic and I have been very active in church since before I can remember. Being raised in a Catholic family and learning about the faith ignited my interest in delving even deeper into it, which is what led me to major in Catholic Studies. Now that I have graduated from college, I am a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in St. Louis Park.

Music has gradually become a larger and larger part of my life, ever since I began classical guitar lessons when I was eight. In addition to guitar, I studied piano for five years, organ for one year, and sang in multiple choirs since eighth grade. As a music major, I deepened my knowledge and love of music, and it was in college that I began ringing handbells and took a year of voice lessons and a semester of lute lessons.

Currently, I live in St. Louis Park and work as a freelance musician. In addition to directing the choirs at St. Luke, I teach guitar both at my home and at the St. Paul Guitar Studio. I am especially passionate about teaching using the Suzuki method (a philosophy of music education which applies the process of learning a language to learning music), in which I have training. I also perform and do other miscellaneous music jobs. Other interests and hobbies of mine include reading, cooking, organizing, and spending time with family and friends.

Come! Join us for...

- fellowship
- refreshments
- live music
- board games

at

St. Luke Coffee House

Open to all...just drop in!

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

We'll see YOU November 19!



November Birthdays



1 - KOU VANG
2 - JEFF FAUST
8 - THELMA KROSKY
13 - COLLEEN MCGOUGH
14 - JOSHUA VIGDAL
16 - BRENDA DREHMEL
17 - DWIGHT PAULSON, JOAN WILSON
18 - BRUCE MAGNUSON
23 - CHRISTINE SALABA
24 - KIRA FAUST
25 - BEN VIGDAL
26 - JANELL WALTER
27 - ADELINE BOICOURT
30 - ADAM CZECH

November Anniversaries



9 - TRACY AND KEVIN ARNDT: 1991
12 - LARRY AND JANELLA LITZKOW: 1960
13 - CHUCK AND MI CHELLE KLEIN: 1976
15 - HAMLINE AND JOAN JOHNSON: 1947
24 - JEAN AND BILL KLOTZ: 1945
26 - JACK AND JOAN HOLTZ: 1960



Confirmation News

We will not have class on Wednesday, November 3. Instead of coming to class, take time to prepare a shoebox present for Operation Christmas Child. We will have class on November 10 and 17. On November 24 there will be no class, but please come to the Thanksgiving worship at 7 p.m.



Ladies Night Out will go on hiatus for November and December. We will resume Ladies Night Out again in January. Watch the December newsletter for details of where we will be dining in January. If you have suggestions of restaurants please feel free to contact Joyce Bluel.

**"Now Thank We All
Our God"!**

**Join us for
Thanksgiving Eve Worship,
Wednesday, Nov. 24,
7:00 p.m.**



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who is volunteering to serve coffee on Sunday mornings. Your church council is asking fellowship volunteers to please use the regular coffee cups instead of Styrofoam cups. This will save money for the kitchen fund and also save our environment .





Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for October: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Peter Klein, Joan Wilson, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird. Our ushers for November will be: Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser, Tom Gaarder.

News From Council President - Nancy Hegdahl



Wow, it is the eleventh month of the year...where has the time gone? The feeling of the approaching holiday season is filling the air; the cold weather is almost upon us.

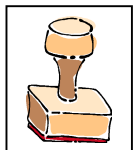
In November, the church has a very important meeting, which is our semi-annual meeting, held on Sunday, November 7, after the service. I would like to encourage all of you to attend this important meeting as we will be electing council members and approving the 2011 budget. It is vital to have everyone's input for this meeting, so please plan on attending.

Wishing all of you a very blessed Thanksgiving season,
Nancy



Highlights of the August 9, 2010 council meeting:

- The Bazaar committee will be purchasing new chairs for the social hall. These will replace the torn chairs and the folding chairs. They will also purchase additional chairs so that we have extras when needed.
- Alex Grzywinski will be attending Augsburg College. He will also be requesting the \$500.00 per semester scholarship that is available to him as a member of St. Luke.
- The council approved an occasional accompanist for the choir director.
- The 2011 council ballot is being prepared. Please let Nancy Hegdahl know if you are interested in joining!



X-mas Stamp-A-Stack with Sue McNeill: Sue will host a Stamp-a-Stack event on Saturday, November 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For \$20.00, you will stamp 15 cards (3 each of 5 designs) and envelopes. No experience necessary. Snack will be provided; all you need to bring is 2-sided tape and a scissors. Get a head start on your holiday card list. RSVP to Sue by phone (work 612-596-4011 or home 651-688-8176) or email (ssmcneill@hotmail.com). Class registration closes on Wednesday, November 17. Sample cards will be posted closer to class date.



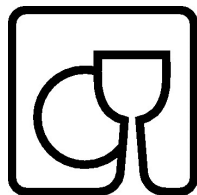
175 Hungry people were served supper on Monday, September 27th by St. Luke and St. Mark at St. Matthews church on the West Side in the Loaves and Fishes program. Workers were Larry Litzkow, Pastor Dave, Ann Verscholye, Joyce Bluel and Eva Mac Niven. Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson also helped by baking cookies.

Dec The Halls!

All are invited on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 11:00 a.m. to decorate our church home for the Advent and Christmas seasons. We'll begin with a potluck lunch, and then roll up our sleeves and dec the halls! Donations of Poinsettias to adorn our altar are greatly appreciated. Join us for this cherished, time-honored St. Luke tradition...it is sure to put you in a festive mood!



We are in need of people to set up for communion services or to wash communion vessels after the services. You would serve three months at a time for either the first or third Sunday of the month. See Eva Mac Niven if you would be willing to serve in this capacity, to choose the times you could serve and which services you would be willing to do. She will walk you through the procedure the first time you serve.



November Readers:

7 – Michael Arndt

14 – Sue McNeill

21 – Julie Ellingson

28 – Katy Eggert



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers
October: Julie Ellingson,
Nancy Hegdahl, Mark
McGough, Joan Wilson and
Ken McGrew.



2010 Fall Bazaar

Sunshine and warm weather greeted us as we hosted another successful Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 16th. It is great to see that we still draw a crowd after all of these years. There are many who attend each and every year and it was nice to welcome those who attended for the first time this year.

This is a great fund-raising effort and fellowship opportunity for our church and community and could not be done without the dedication and hard work of **all** of our members.

The chili was delicious and the desserts were a big hit! The ever popular White Elephant Room was a treasure trove of bargains! The children found a variety of activities in the Kiddie Room to keep themselves busy while Mom and Dad shopped. It is amazing the talent this congregation has when it comes to baking and crafting, we had a good quantity of items to offer the shoppers.

Special thanks to our committee chairs: White Elephant Room: Jo Klein & David Elliott, Bake Sale: Dorothy Zitterow and Joan Wilson, Raffle: Nancy Hegdahl and Julie Gaarder, Kitchen: Sandi Gordon, Kiddie Room: Barb Jensen & Alex Grzywinski, Publicity: Carol Vigdal, Treasurer: Eva Mac Niven and our Greeter and Emcee: Sue McNeill.

Thanks again for your support!

2010 Fall Bazaar Chairs

Joyce Bluel and Margaret Vigdal

As is the St. Luke tradition, we will be collecting donations for Thanksgiving Baskets, which will be distributed to members of our community. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, November 21. If you would like to make a monetary contribution to filling these baskets, please indicate on the "memo" line of your check: Thanksgiving baskets.

Thank you!



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