

St. Luke Lutheran Church

“The Tidings”



OCTOBER, 2011

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OCTOBER



Inside this issue:

Pastor's Ponderings	2
Youth Ministry	3
News of Our Flock	5-6
Around Our Church	9-11

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:15AM

Traditional Worship w/Holy Communion

10:45AM

1st & 4th Sundays - Traditional Worship
w/Holy Communion

2nd Sunday - Family Worship w/Holy Communion

3rd Sunday - Contemporary Worship w/Holy Communion

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30AM

BIBLE STUDIES

Sundays at 9:30am

Mondays at 7:30pm (Whenever Confirmation Class Is Held)

Women's Bible Study in the Education Bldg.
on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00pm.

Wednesdays at 10:00am

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I sit here in my study at home, I am looking out the window awaiting the arrival of Irene. What a powerful force water and wind mixed together create. I don't know what the results will be until Irene leaves us and we begin to pick up the pieces of what she leaves behind. How incredible it is that, as we prepare for the new beginning of the school year and the Christian Education Programs, that it is a result of the power of water and wind in our lives that gives us the foundation of Jesus to build our lives.

In the powerful waters of baptism we are made living members of His Holy Church. The indwelling power of the "wind", the Holy Spirit equips us with varied gifts and graces to live out our lives in faith and love for the Lord who first loves us and gave himself as a sacrifice for us. Irene will have a temporal effect on our lives and could even wreak havoc on our lives for a time, but it is the Holy Spirit who renews us daily and keeps us focused on Jesus. The Holy Spirit also moves us to use our gifts and talents for the building up of the body of Christ, reaching out to transform the lives of others.

When you receive this Irene's mark will have been made. However, we will move forward with the mark of the cross from our baptism to pull together and serve Him who so graciously has served and continues to serve us.

It is my hope and prayer that each of us will take time to reflect upon God's gifts to us, and consider how we will use those gifts in the ministry we share at St. Luke, and in the church at large. I look forward to exploring those gifts with you, and working side by side with you as we seek to "Transform Lives, Through Christ, in Time, for Eternity."

Peace and love,
Charles W. Froehlich, Pastor



YOUTH MINISTRY

St. Luke Youth Upcoming Events & Activities

JOIN THE FUN!!!!

10/29 – Halloween Activity from 10am – 12pm

12/3 - Cookie Baking for Troops

1/14 – Safety Swim Event

3/3 – Cooking Party/Plaster Fun Craft

4/7 – Easter Eggstravaganza

6/2 – Carnival

The Shire, our High School Bible Study/hang-out time, continues every other Sunday from 7-9pm.

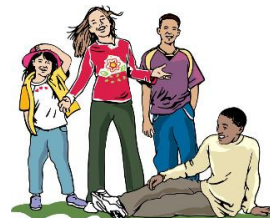
We resume weekly **Pool and Game Nights** for kids 6-12th grade on Thursday evenings from 7-9pm. We're hoping to have a more consistent turn-out as when we have enough kids we do mini-tournaments and have trophies and prizes for the winner. If we get enough interested kids/adults, we will hold a one day tournament sometime before Christmas, where we will give out pool sticks as prizes.

Every other Friday night we have a **"Pit"**, usually starting around 7 or 7:30pm until 11:30/12:00. These have been well attended all summer as the kids from our church continue to bring friends. We will continue until the weather forces us indoors. Once the weather turns, we will have monthly half nights for confirmation aged and high school-aged kids inside.

On November 19th, we have a **Paintball** outing scheduled with several other churches. Our goal is to rent out half the park! Details to follow soon.

As each event approaches, please check the weekly bulletins and The Tidings each month for more information. You can also speak to Jim Dorner or Sandi McDermott at any time.

In Christ,
Jim Dorner & Sandi McDermott



FROM DEACON PAGE

Debt & Forgiveness

Over the summer, the U.S. Government was faced with the dilemma of whether or not to raise the debt ceiling. To me “debt ceiling” seems like a misnomer. I think it is more of a “debt basement”. To increase debt you dig the hole deeper and deeper. Anyway, in Matthew 18:23-35 we have the parable of “The Unmerciful Servant”. Very briefly, the first part of this parable tells us about a man who owed a king a great sum of money. The man begged for time to repay him back (in reality the amount was so large, he would never be able to repay it). The king showed forgiveness and mercy by cancelling the man’s entire debt. In this part of the parable, where do you see yourself? Are you the man asking for forgiveness or are you the king giving forgiveness? I see the king as God and the servant as us. Do we acknowledge that we need the forgiveness that God offers everyday? We are blessed to receive that forgiveness each time we come to the Lord’s Table. Every morning that we wake up we have the opportunity to walk in the newness of life and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us.

Now, how about the other side? Are we willing to offer forgiveness as eagerly as we are to receive it? Each week we recite the Lord’s Prayer and we pray, “*forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*” I’m sure we want the first part of this line, but what about the second part? Do we mean it when we say “forgive those who trespass against us” or has it just gotten rote? To forgive those who trespass against us is an opportunity to reflect the character of Christ. There is a song with the title, “He Lives”. Some words of the refrain are, “*He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives in my heart.*” As we continue on our spiritual journey may we know that Christ lives in our hearts, and in turn, may the people we come in contact with see and experience the Christ that lives in our hearts.

In His Service,

Deacon Brad Page



NEWS OF OUR FLOCK



Loss
in our Church
Family

During the past couple of months our flock was touched by the death of two long time members of St. Luke and we commend their families to the Lord's care in their time of sorrow.

Bill Meade has been called by many "Mr. St. Luke" "Mr. Coffee Hour" "Mr. Softball" and a variety of other names. He will truly be missed by his family and by his St. Luke family. Bill would go out of his way to welcome visitors and make sure that they were introduced to others. If there was a job to be done, he would find people to do it if he couldn't do it himself, which most often times he would say he couldn't do it. He touched the lives of both children and adults, always with a smile and a good word for you. He served on the Church Council at one time, but he was always the "behind the scenes" person welcoming everyone. All this was motivated by his love for the Lord, his family, and the church. We give thanks for his ministry among us and ask God's comfort to rest upon his wife, Pat, and the rest of the family who loved him so much.

The very same week that Bill received the crown of life another of our long time members, Jane Guastaferrero, also received the crown of life after an extended struggle with cancer. Jane was one of those people who always made others feel so important even while she was going through the most difficult times. She would always ask about how others were doing and never be concerned about herself. When her daughter, Holly, was diagnosed with tuberous sclerosis as a child she and her husband Ralph and other daughter Jill did everything to make Holly's life a joy even as Jane was going through her own illness. There was always a smile on her face and a faith in her heart. Jane touched our lives and we grew.

My life was enriched by having had the opportunity to minister to these two saints and I treasured the times when I could share with them the Lord's Supper in their homes when they were unable to come to worship.

Pastor Froehlich



This past week we also heard of the death of a former member, Judy Rumpf, in Georgia. Judy was instrumental in the development of our summer ministries back in the early 80's. She too fought a valiant fight with cancer. We pray God's blessings upon her family, husband Tom and daughters Pam and Sussane.

We ask God's blessings upon Bonnie Berger whose father, Christian Berger, passed away in September and for Hannah Froehlich whose father, Glenn Gurnett, passed away in July.

NEWS OF OUR FLOCK



Over the summer we celebrated a number of Baptisms of both children and adults. We pray God's blessings upon these precious lambs of God as they grow in faith.

Jennifer Manno
Dean Pluschau
Nora Jackson

Chace Hansen
Camryn Sloan
Alana Capogna

Sophia Polanco
Morgan Bocchino
Grace and Susan Guastella



We rejoice at the marriages of Stephanie Gelish and Andrew Chow, and Allyson Buhse and Steven Griffith III. What a joy to be a part of the special days in the lives of these young people as they have grown in love for each other. We rejoice with their families as they grow by adding children.

Please Pray



We pray for God's healing for Pat Meade, Diane Pahlke, Phil Jaeger, Richard Henry, Helmi Star, Eleanor Stentiford, Marty Maningo, and the Slade family.

Reformation Sunday



"Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side and bend to every necessity of our brethren."

—Martin Luther

New Bible/Book Study: “The Jesus I Never Knew”

Please join us to discuss the exciting book and DVD series: “The Jesus I Never Knew” by Philip Yancey. We’ll take a closer look at who Jesus really is and how that impacts our lives. As Yancey writes in his book, *“I attempt to tell the story of Jesus, not my own story. Inevitably, though, a search for Jesus turns out to be one’s own search.”*

The book is available online at Amazon.com and can be ordered from the God4Me Christian Bookstore in Farmingdale. The first meeting is Tuesday, October 11th at 7:30 in the Memorial Gathering Room. The group will meet the second Tuesday and last Tuesday of each month. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for those who are interested in attending. If you have any questions, contact Denise Cianciotti at 631-368-3336.

Monday evening Bible Study will resume beginning in October for adults. Studies will be held whenever Confirmation Classes are meeting, the study will be held from 7:30-8:45pm.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resumed at 10am on September 7th.



Membership
Class

A new member orientation class will begin in October.

Beginning in September our deacons began carrying out a new aspect of ministry. When a deacon is serving, following the closing hymn they will meet with anyone for personal prayer or conversation. The deacon will be at the Baptismal Font at the front of the church. There you can make special prayer requests, or simply ask the deacon to pray with you about a joy or a special need.

A reminder to all members, please help the mission field by taking a Mite Box (in the back tower or by the coat rack in the Narthax) and putting your loose change in. A lot can be accumulated in those little boxes. This is a very important project and many benefit from it. This program is a year round project and needs many participants.

On Oct 2nd the St. Luke LWML will be taking orders for Christmas evergreen wreaths & centerpieces after both services. The 22" decorated wreaths are \$20 and 12" decorated centerpieces are \$15. Orders and money will be accepted until Oct. 23rd. Delivery will be by Dec. 2nd. All proceeds will be going to St. Luke Missions and the Suffolk Chapter of the LWML for mission projects.



LWML News:

1) The Ladies Bible Study will be starting again on Oct. 4th following with 10/18, 11/1 & 11/15 and will be held the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the church Memorial Gathering Room. Denise Norman will be leading this exciting group.

2) Movie nights will be starting Friday night - 10/7- at 7:15pm at the church. The first movie will be "Soul Surfer" (had technical difficulties last time). We will be hosting this the 1st Friday of the month. Come relax, enjoy a great movie, and a good ladies night out. Bring along a snack or drink to go with the movie. Each month a different LWML member will be hosting this event. Check the bulletin inserts and in the Narthax for information. We are looking for volunteers to bring some munchies and beverages and also to take turns hosting this event, so that one person doesn't have to do it every month. We thank Sandi McDermott who is hosting the October 7th movie night.

3) The Book Club will be starting on Wed. 11/9 in the church Memorial Gathering Room. This will be held the 2nd Wed. of the month (except December). The 1st book will be announced soon. Any books that you might like to read as part of this interesting program, please let us know.

4) The LWML ladies will be hosting a Coffee Hour on 11/20. Please join us that day to meet us and learn more about St. Luke LWML.

5) We are also looking to start up a yoga class, to be held on Sat. mornings or an evening (whichever is more convenient for all) at the church. There would be a nominal fee of a few dollars for the instructor. Get some exercise without ending up crippled for days! Anyone interested in this, please contact Dot Mock or Sandi McDermott or any LWML member.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ANY OF THE LWML EVENTS, FROM "TEENS TO YOUNG AT HEARTS". The more ladies that join us, the more interesting ideas and discussions can be shared.

AROUND OUR CHURCH

COMMUNITY GIVE BACK PROGRAM.....The Engeman Theater is offering \$5.00 off tickets purchased through St. Luke and St. Luke receives \$10.00 back per ticket. Use the promotion code STLUKE to purchase tickets online or at the box office to get your discount and a donation will automatically go to St. Luke. Offer excludes Friday and Saturday night performances.

The Sights, Sounds, and Smells Boutique is again looking for donated handmade items to be sold at this year's event. These items were a big seller last year. It's so nice to receive a handmade gift. So, get those fingers & hands going! We will store the items if needed. Contact Debbie or Jim Gnad for more information.

There will be a Sights, Sounds, and Smells meeting on Oct.5th at 7:00pm in the Education Building to kick off the planning for this wonderful Christmas event. We are always looking for help in any capacity. It's a great way to be a part of fun-filled, happy day.

PRESCHOOL NEWS



Fall is upon us and St. Luke Preschool and Early Childhood Center is back into full swing. We had a busy summer with our Summer Program "Going Camping" which ran for four weeks. We had approximately 115 children attending within those weeks. The children enjoyed wonderful activities, and our mascot "Luke, The Honey Bear" was a big hit. We were certainly blessed with a wonderful staff.

September has seen the normal adjustment for the children as well as the staff, and everyone seems to be settling in well.

We've added some new Enrichment Classes: SmartBoard, Yoga, and Music with Janet Pinto, all of which have been well received by the children and parents alike. We continue to hold Chapel (which is now being held twice a month for the children), Staff Devotions, held twice a week before school begins and we continue to use our previous curriculum which we have restructured to be more effective for each age group.

In October we have lots planned: A field trip to Schmidt's Farm for our Pre-K Classes and a "pumpkin patch" on the hill for our Learn & Play and Preschool Classes, Picture Day, and, at the end of the month, our "Let's Pretend" Parties will be held.

We are looking forward to another year of working with these young children to help them develop both educationally and spiritually. Please keep us in your prayers as we move forward in this effort. Look for us on St. Luke's Facebook page.....we are always posting pictures with the special things going on at the school.

AROUND OUR CHURCH

Please join our terrific families on the “Wall of Fame”. Picture day for the St. Luke "Wall of Fame" will be Oct. 9th after both services. This is for our newest members and those who didn't have their pictures taken last year. If you still don't want to have one taken that at the church, then please give or email one of your own pictures to Debbie Gnad (tipsyq1@verizon.net) or Kathy von Thaden (autumnvt@verizon.net).

On September 17th we held our Candlewood Christian Coffee House and it was another great evening of Christian music and fellowship. Our guest artists, Crossfire, performed many songs that were inspirational and moving. They played various genres of music from contemporary to blue grass. Crossfire was a big hit and received a standing ovation at the end of the evening. We had over 40 people in attendance plus some of our youth, who attended the first half the evening. As always delicious desserts abounded and were enjoyed by all. I would like to thank everyone who helped make the evening possible by either setting up, baking or donating desserts, or cleaning up. We couldn't do all this without the help of many hands! Thanks too to all those who support this ministry by attending, without an “audience” there would be no Coffee House!!! If you missed this coffee house, or have never attended one before, I invite you to join us on November 12th . Check the bulletins, website, and emails for more information for the Nov. 12th coffee house.

Blessings,
Kathy von Thaden



Crossfire

Some of our
guests.....



AROUND OUR CHURCH

Major Repairs and Improvements

Thanks to the generous support of our Shares for Shared Ministries we were able to tackle some of the much needed improvements to our aging facility.

- Another section of the siding on the old part of the building was replaced and some roof repairs over the offices were made.
- A new front walk constructed of pavers was put in place with a larger walkway leading from the front parking lot.
- The driveway leading down to the lower parking lot was graded and repaved and freed of many potholes.
- The handicapped parking area was enlarged and repaved. We ask that only those who have a special handicapped permit park there. Please do not park on the driveways leading in and out of the parking lots, and please leave the upper parking lot for our senior members. Access is also available through the back door of the church for those with special needs.
- The overhang near the handicapped parking was strengthened through the installation of a support beam.
- Better lighting is being installed on the outside.
- We upgraded the three office computers.
- A SmartBoard was installed for the use of the school and church.
- The old overgrown bushes in the front of the church were removed and we are looking to make the areas around the flagpole more of a garden center with smaller plantings in front of the church.

As we look to the future we will continue to replace the old siding, replace the carpeting in the church after nearly 20 years and, after 28 years, begin to do some much needed repairs on the parsonage.

The best part of this is that we have not just focused on ourselves but continued to increase our support to missions. Thank you so much for your continued support of our Shares for Shared Ministries outreach through your commitment to a share or a half share or more than one share. Forms for this fiscal year's commitment are online or on the Literature Table in the back tower or by the Usher's Desk.



Oktoberfest
St. Luke Lutheran Church
October 22, 2011
6:30pm
Live Music and Dancing

Great German food, Beer, Wine, Soda, and good German Desserts with, of course, good Lutheran Coffee (& Tea)

Price **\$45** per person (\$40 if received by 10/9) **Please write checks to St. Luke Lutheran Church and place them in the Klare's Mailbox**

Deadline for Reservations and Payment October 16th

On-site Childcare will be available at a reasonable price!

Bring your own beer stein!

