



January
2011

The Good News



January 29, 2011, at 2 pm is the St. Luke **Feed My Starving Children Big Pack**. We have 90 spots available for St. Luke members and friends. If you've never been to Feed My Starving Children, consider it this month. It offers an opportunity that the whole family (age 5 and up) can enjoy. At the same time you will be able to learn about the needs of children around the globe. Sign up in the Coffee Corner.



Dear Friends at
St. Luke,

JANUARY SERMON SERIES – “The Beatitudes”
January 8th and 9th marks the beginning of a new sermon series for the New Year. We’ll spend five weekends together looking at Jesus’ teachings on the many ways we are blessed. During his powerful “Sermon on the Mount,” Jesus presented what have been called, “The Beatitudes.” This is a word that means happiness or bliss. What is interesting is that Jesus names eight groups of people in the “Beatitudes” that, at first thought, we would think would be far from happy or full of bliss. What was Jesus trying to teach us? How can our faith grow when we understand the true meaning of what Jesus was trying to say? Bring your Bibles.

ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION The love of God in Jesus Christ has changed lives at St. Luke during 2010. Through living out our “4 G’s: Gather, Grow, Give & Go,” there are countless stories of how God’s gift of faith has changed lives. Every year, Confirmed/Voting members of St. Luke gather to celebrate all that God has done in the past year, and prayerfully look to the new year together with hopeful anticipation of what God will do in, and through, us. On Sunday, January 30 at 12:15 pm, St. Luke will gather for our Annual Meeting. Among important events at this year’s meeting: 4 new Council Members will be elected; and a 2011 budget will be approved. Your presence, voice and vote are much needed at this year’s meeting. I hope to see you there.

THANK YOU! Thank you, St. Luke, for the privilege of serving you as Senior Pastor. I am now four months into our sixth year together, and I count it an honor to be a part of this family of faith. You are an amazing congregation!

God's Blessings to You and Yours in the New Year,
Pastor Tim

Get to Know Your Church Council

A Council Member is available between services in the narthex to answer any questions and take suggestions from congregation members. All questions and comments are welcome.

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ANNUAL MEETING

St. Luke Confirmed Members:

Budget Hearing:
January 23, 12:15 pm

OR

January 25, 6:00 pm

Annual Meeting:
January 30, 12:15 pm

New Member Class

January 30 from 3-6 pm is our next New Member Class. Come and learn more about the mission of St. Luke Lutheran Church. Get to know other new members and enjoy dinner together before heading home. Contact Brian Rock (brock@stlukecg.com or 651-459-1222, ext. 30) to sign up.

Seeds of Faith

December was a great month. The Christmas program was a great success and it was nice to see all the families! Thank you to all the families that donated the cookies for our reception. It was nice to see everyone take time out of their busy schedule at this time of year.

January is a busy month at Seeds of Faith. Enrollment for next year for our current families and congregation starts January 9. The registration forms and payment need to be made at time of enrollment. Transportation sign up is not a guarantee of space. We will look at the routes and let you know about availability. Forms are available on the website or outside the Seeds of Faith office. Come and see us if you need a tour and would like to see what our preschool is all about.

Reminders:

- Payment is due on the 25th of the month. Please see our policy in your handbook.
- No school on January 17.

Have a great January,

Amy Loetz
Preschool Director
651-458-5853, ext. 24 or
aloetz@stlukecg.com



Check out our new blog at
www.livinfaith.posterous.com.
Password is stlukecg!

Family Activities

**Family Date Night—
Fridays, Jan. 7;**

6:30—9:30 pm

On the first Friday of each month, we offer FREE evening childcare at St. Luke for families. Our only request is that you use the time to do something fun. Our families succeed when the adults in their lives make their relationship of high importance and spend time together. To sign up or be a Date Night volunteer, please contact Alyssa Weber at aweber@stlukecg.com or 651-458-LUKE, ext. 29.

**Fx---Family Experience—
Totally Free,
Family Entertainment—
January 21, 7 pm**

Fx brings kids and parents together for an experience that rivals any family event. These 1-hour productions use music, video, dance, and a clubhouse full of insanely funny characters that make

it a blast for the entire family. Each Production highlights one core value such as patience, responsibility, service, and peace. It's fast paced, extreme fun with a purpose! Whether you're a kid or just a kid at heart, you don't want to miss Fx!

FX needs singers, dancers, and musicians! Contact Ms. Laura for more info lschultze@stlukecg.com.

Blessing of the Households! Coming January 1st & 2nd is a very special Family Blessing! Bring your whole family to church (worship) and receive a special blessing. Church School will begin in worship for the beginning at all services. Then we will go out to Church School and have our regular lesson.

Church School



First Bible Class

First Bible to begin on Jan. 9

Calling all Third graders, and anyone else who has not taken First Bible! All ages are welcome. On January 9th, we will start the first of our eight-week dive into the Bible. Parent and child walk through the whole bible together, Sundays from 3:30-5:00 pm. Our last day together will be on February 27th. There will be a Bible Blessing in worship on March 2nd & 3rd, when we give away our used Bibles!

Thanks!

What an AWESOME job all our Church School kids did in our "The Stars Tell The Story" Worship service!

Also, THANK YOU to our kids with speaking parts for they invested 20 hours, plus time spent at home, to be ready for leading worship!

We are so proud of all our kids!

Many, many thanks to Mary Butze, for hours and hours and much care in putting our Christmas Worship service together. Thank you for investing in our children!

To all those guys and gals who set up, moved, and took down the sanctuary for our worship service, a big thank you is much deserved!

Thanks to Dan Meyer for playing piano for us!

What an AWESOME job all our Church School kids did in our Worship services!

PRAYER LIST**Hope & Healing**

Mike Austin
 Rick Geving
 Barbara Gochow
 Paige Pedersen
 Marie Prior
 Jacie Strander
 Al Wright

Long Term Care

Vi Cavalier
 Shirley Olander
 Pam Schmuki
 Mary Ann Tholen
 Jim Wolford

December Baptisms

Will James Smetnna, son of
 Dawn Smetnna

Death

Judy Peterson, aunt of *Paul
 Backstrom

2011 Offering Envelopes

Envelopes to be in Worship
 Entry Area through the first of
 the year. Please inquire at the
 Information Desk if you can't
 locate your envelope box.

**New PIANO**

St. Luke has purchased a
 much-needed, nearly-
 new piano for worship.
 This piano purchase was
 made possible by funds
 provided by the St. Luke
 Boutique Committee.

Good-bye, Kelli

Kelli Colley will be
 leaving her position here
 at St. Luke after 6 years
 as Office Administrator.
 Please pray for her
 success in her new job at
 the South Washington
 School District's
 Community Education
 Department.
 THANKS for all the good
 work, Kelli!



Hey St. Luke!

**NEW YEAR...NEW
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES**

Spiritual Disciplines Course:
There are ancient practices (prayer, Sabbath, solitude, Scripture meditation, etc) that are proven to lead to life transformation. Come learn why and how to develop your life around these life-giving disciplines.

Galatians: A Loaded Letter for Today's Church: This New Testament book has tons of important and relevant messages for us today. Dig into God's Word and find what true freedom is all about.

Check out the Spring 2011 Chapter 2 Brochure for more info and to register for these and other courses.

**NEW YEAR...NEW
SERVING
OPPORTUNITIES**

Feed My Starving Children Big Pack: Be one of 90+ volunteers from St. Luke as we fill the FMSC Packing Site in January with servant hearts!

Souper Bowl 2011: Help fight against hunger in our community by bringing cans of soup with you to worship on Super/Souper Bowl Weekend.

Mission Midway Year Round: Be the hands and feet of Jesus to the poor and needy in the Midway by serving it up through the new monthly mission projects.

See p. 15 for more info on these opportunities.

NEW YEAR...THANKS FOR 2010

Share the Joy: Praise God for your servant hearts! We received 150 names of kids in our community who needed a present for Christmas...and all of them got gifts thanks to God's work through you. Thank you for your generous hearts and your willingness to "share the joy" of Jesus with others in our community!

Thanks for all the ways you followed Jesus and shared His love with the world last year. It is truly a wonderful thing to be a part of a church on mission for our New Born King.

Peace,
Pastor Nathan

Youth

MISSION TRIP 2011 First mission trip meeting set for January 23, 2011 at 7 pm for students going to Cortez, CO this summer!

Thank you for supporting the Youth Mission Trip fundraisers. We couldn't do this important work without your help.

LEARNING

FLAME, for 6th and 7th graders, returns January 12 at 6:00 pm.

BLAZE, for 8th and 9th graders, returns January 12 at 7:15 pm.

INFERNO, our Senior High Ministry, will start back up again January 12 and be every Wednesday from 8-9 pm!

For more info, contact Sarah (sludwig@stlukecg.com or 651-458-5853, ext. 25).

January 1 & 2

Sat. Host(s)/Sunday Ushers

5:18 Cordts Family
8:15 D. Brisson, J. Heroff, G. Valencour
9:30 G. Oldenkamp, C. Taterka, M. Tucker
11:00 J. Fitzgerald, Fields'

Communion Assistants

5:18 C. Colley, K. Colley
8:15 D. Andrews, K. Hammero
9:30 Rick Ayers, Bud & Brenda Davies, Lena J. & Shawn Kirsch, Cathryn Lande
11:00 B. Fields, J. Fitzgerald, A. Loetz, S. Ludwig, K. McCarthy, J. Urbano

Greeter

8:15 Binder

9:30 Hoffman

11:00 Schultze

Coffee

Bacon/Cooper

Bertrand

Przbyzylski

Liturgist - Schedule pending

Nursery

9:30 Stacey Larson

11:00 Jina Forsys

Reader

8:15 Steve Palacio

9:30 Katie Sevcik

Counters - Dave Petrie, Kevin Sevcik, Tim Sprouls

Altar

5:18 Staff

8:15 / 9:30 Kris Meyer

11:00 Maureen Fitzgerald

January 8 & 9

Sat. Host(s)/Sunday Ushers

5:18 Maluski Family
8:15 T. Braaten, B. Hickman, G. Lundberg, J. McCool
9:30 M. Christian, G. Dahling, Hinz's
11:00 Butze's, S. Heine, T. Loetz

Communion Assistants

8:15 G. Bauer, P. Beard

Greeter

8:15 Dennis & Cheryl Bostrom

9:30 Greg & Karyn Jeseritz

11:00 Richard & Renee Haliburton

Liturgist - Schedule pending

Nursery

9:30 Heidi Prange

11:00 Cassie Klinga

Reader

8:15 Paul Beard

9:30 Dennis Griffis

Counters - Debbie Hickman, Stacey Larson, Kim Morsching

Altar

8:15 C. Anderson, J. Nelson



Coffee Corner

Would you be able to bring in a plate of treats before worship? A cookie or other small snack adds to our Sunday morning fellowship after worship. Contact Brian (brock@stlukecg.com or 651-459-1222, ext. 30) about this ministry.

Shared Ministers

January 15 & 16

Sat. Host(s)/Sunday Ushers

5:18 Schroeder Family

8:15 G. Keller, T. Knop, J.

Stoner, S. Torok

9:30 J. Bertrand, B. Hall, T. Hall,
G. Jeseritz

11:00 J. Christensen, D. Vogt,
Menke's

Communion Assistants

8:15 J. Holmes, N. Lemke

Greeter **Coffee**

8:15 Braaten, Lemke Guertin

9:30 Kielb

11:00 A. & J. Johnson Mellum

Liturgist - Schedule pending

Nursery

9:30 Joan Holmes

11:00 Cole Gregory

Reader

8:15 Nancy Lemke

9:30 Janice Borofka

Counters - Lori Larson, Jill

Rinzel, Paul Urbano

Altar

8:15 Torok's

January 22 & 23

Sat. Host(s)/Sunday

Ushers

5:18 Jones Family

8:15 D. Bostrom, D. Moenke,
S. Sawatzke, K. Steinlage

9:30 C. Meyer, Brunkows, M.
Zilge

11:00 P. Zittel family

Communion Assistants

8:15 L. Deiman, S. Palacio

Greeter

8:15 Dan & Deb Freiling

9:30 Kirsch

11:00 Krier

Liturgist - Schedule pending

Nursery

9:30 Katie Brisson

11:00 Ashley Thorton

Reader

8:15 Beth Sprouls

9:30 Jennifer Halbur

Counters - David Petrie,
Kevin Sevcik, Beth Sprouls

Altar

8:15 OPEN

January 29 & 30

Sat. Host(s)/Sunday

Ushers

5:18 Open

8:15 K. Sevcik, T. Sprouls

9:30 J. Bertrand, B. Hall, T.
Hall, G. Jeseritz

11:00 Butze's, S. Heine, T.
Loetz

Communion Assistants

8:15 Soby's

Greeter

8:15 Guertin

9:30 Mitkutowski

11:00 Kuhns

Liturgist - Schedule
pending

Nursery

9:30 Vickie Blomgren

11:00 Sean McCarthy

Reader

8:15 Tim Sprouls

9:30 Sheena Kilian

Counters - Pam Hatlestad,
Karen Krier, Dick Swanson

Altar


8:15 C. Anderson, J.
Nelson

Information Desk

Looking for folks to man the Info Desk before and after worship—great way to meet people! Contact Brian (brock@stlukecg.com or 651-459-1222, ext. 30) about helping out.

Banking or Cashier

Experience? Contact Connie (cshirkey@stlukecg.com or 651-459-1222, ext. 21) about Finance Ministry opportunities.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2 Worship/Holy Communion/ 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 Blessing of the Households	3 School Resumes 6:30—8:00 pm Scouts (Mary)	4 5:00—7:00 pm Loaves & Fishes (Faith Lutheran Church-St Paul) 6:30—7:30 pm Scouts (Coffee Area)	5 4:30—5:30 pm Scouts (Mary) 6- 7 pm FLAME Guides (Sanct.) 6:20 pm Faithful Men (Mary) 7:00 pm Rejoice Choir (Mary) 7:15-8:15 pm BLAZE Guides (Sanct.) 8 pm INFERNO (Mary)	6 6:00-7:00 pm Hummel Small Group (Mary) 7:00 pm True Mercy (Sanc)	7 6:30-9:30 pm Family Date Night (FH)	8 5:18 pm Worship Blessing of the Households
9 Worship 8:15/HC, 9:30 & 11:00 Mission Midway Morning 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm College Min. Cards (Mary) 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm 1st Bible	10 9:00 Quilting (Mary) 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Scouts (Mary) 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Cursillo (FH)	11 6:30—7:30 pm Scouts (Coffee Area)	12 6- 7 pm FLAME (Sanct.) 6:20 pm Faithful Men (Mary) 7:00 pm Rejoice Choir (Mary) 7:15- 8:45 pm BLAZE (Sanct.) 8 pm INFERNO (Mary)	13 7:00 pm True Mercy (Sanc)	14 6:30pm Scouts Overnight	15 5:18 pm Worship 8:00 am Scouts Overnight

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16 Worship 8:15/HC, 9:30 & 11:00 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm 1st Bible 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Fx Dress Rehearsal	17 No School 9:00 Quilting (Mary) 6:30—8:00 pm Scouts (Mary)	18 6:45 pm - 9:00 pm Council Mtg (Mary)	19 4:30—5:30 pm Scouts (Mary) 6- 7 pm FLAME (Sanct.) 6:20 pm Faithful Men (Mary) 7:00 pm Rejoice Choir (Mary) 7:15- 8:45 pm BLAZE (Sanct.) 8 pm INFERNO (Mary)	20 7:00 pm True Mercy (Sanc)	21 7:00-8:00 pm Family eXperience (Sanct.) 5:30 pm Fx Dress Rehearsal	22 5:18 pm Worship
23 Worship 8:15/HC, 9:30 & 11:00 12:15 pm Budget Hearing 1st Bible –Home Unit 7:00—9:00 pm Scouts (FH)	24 9:00 Quilting (Mary) 6:30—8:00 pm Scouts (FH)	25 6:00 pm Budget Hearing	26 FLAME & BLAZE Social/Service 6:20 pm Faithful Men (Mary) 7:00 pm Rejoice Choir (Mary) 8:00 pm INFERNO (Mary)	27 7:00 pm True Mercy (Sanc)	28	29 5:18 pm Worship
30 Worship 8:15/HC, 9:30 & 11:00 12:15 PM Annual Meeting 3-6 pm New Member Orientation 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm 1st Bible	31 9:00 Quilting (Mary) 6:30—8:00 pm Scouts (Mary)					Scheduled dates as of 12/15/10.

Council Activities

October 19, 2010 Meeting

Highlights

By Lori Hintz,

Council Communicator

This column summarizes highlights of the most recently approved council meeting minutes. Complete approved minutes are available at the Information Desk.

Finance Report/Finance Team Recommendation— The budget adjustments are making a difference and we continue to carefully manage expenses. In addition, August and September income/offering exceeded expenses.

Personnel Team Update – Team worked on the 2011 budget. Seeds of Faith is looking for additional housekeeping support. Gary Jurkovich continues to lead Saturday service music on a month-to-month basis.

BLT Update – Finance Team is working on a phased approach to the next step, which they will present at the annual meeting.

Year of Education Resolution

– Two of the three dates have taken place and the third is scheduled. The Team is proud of the work they've done.

Objective: “To allow education for the congregation on the ELCA resolutions with outside sources including ELCA.”

2011 Budget Process – Budget packages have been sent to staff to help them prepare their recommendations (due Nov 1). The Budget Team will present draft budget to Council at the November meeting.

2010 Nominating Committee – Council will commission the Team at the November meeting. Team will include two council representatives: the Member at Large and the Past President.

New Business— We are changing insurance carriers to a local agency that gives us broader coverage and better pricing.

Outreach

Mission Midway

Starting January 9, we will expand our partnership with Bethlehem Lutheran Church-in-the-Midway. The second weekend of every month will give members and friends of St. Luke an opportunity to serve our Lord in the inner city. Each month there will be a different activity to take part in. It may be preparing and serving food or handing out clothing or getting the word out to the neighborhood that some physical needs can be met at Bethlehem Lutheran. Then on Sunday morning we will need a family or small group to prepare a breakfast for the homeless and attend worship at Bethlehem.

Listen to this quote from author Dallas Willard, “The world can no longer be left to the mere diplomats, politicians and business leaders. They

have done the best they could, no doubt. But this is an age for spiritual heroes, a time for men and women to be heroic in their faith and in spiritual character and power. The greatest danger to the Christian church today is that of pitching its message too low.” Let’s not pitch our message too low, let’s show the world that this message is far too important to be kept inside our sanctuary. Contact Brian Rock (brock@stlukecg.com or 651-459-1222, ext. 30) for more information.

Souper Bowl 2011 As two teams battle for a Super Bowl victory, we want to do our part to battle against hunger in our community by having our own SOUPER Bowl Weekend! On February 5-6, bring cans of soup with you to worship and drop them off in the lobby. All donations will be given to Friends in Need Food Shelf.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Fair Trade Coffee for Sale**, between services on January 2
- **Loaves and Fishes**: January 4, 5—7 pm
- See Front Cover for information on Feed My Starving Children

Souper Bowl Sunday



Bring soup to worship the weekend of February 5 & 6. All soup will be brought to Friends in Need Foodshelf.