

**GOOD NEWS FROM ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SLINGER, WISCONSIN**

**WWW.STLUKE-SLINGER.ORG**

**F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2**

**MISSION STATEMENT: GATHER + EMPOWER + SERVE**



The book of Acts in the New Testament is a great read. It is a page-turner, with stories on every page of a new movement that could not be stopped. In chapter 6, we hear of what that movement had to do when they increased in number beyond what the original 12 disciples could handle:

.....

“Now, during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.’

What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus... They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem...”

.....

It would have been easier to stay the size they were. It would have been easier not to reach out, not to go beyond the model that they knew. They were used to the original 12 doing most of the heavy lifting, but since they had grown to the point that was no longer possible, a new model emerged. Now, the 12 were not just called to *do* the work; they were called to *empower others* to do the work as well.

Acts is a great page-turner of a story, but it is even better as a model for the modern church. Like those early believers, you and I are part of a community that has “increased in number.” So that we do not get to the point where anyone is neglected, we need to re-think our model of ministry.

We have some very dedicated staff at St. Luke – I don’t have to tell you that. Lisa volunteers her time to make sure Sunday School is organized and ready for the 100+ kids that come here. Karen Berg volunteers her time to make sure each of you find your gifts and where they can be used, just like the first disciples. Chet makes sure our church is clean and inviting. Sandy makes sure the choir’s voices lift our hearts and spirits. Karen’s musical gifts make each Sunday morning feel like a true celebration of God’s love. Poppy’s dedication to our youth and incredible organizational skills make the church’s love for our kids tangible. And Michelle’s kind voice and deep knowledge of St. Luke and the work that goes on here keeps it all running smoothly.

But maybe...it’s not just them who are called to “work for” the Church. Maybe, every single one of us works for God in one way or another – using the gifts we have to do the work of ministry both inside and outside the walls of this church.

As we jump head first into 2012, you will be seeing some changes in the staff. With the approval of the 2012 budget, you will see the addition of the “Discipleship Coordinator” as a paid position. This position, currently filled in a volunteer capacity by Karen Berg, will be offered openly to any who apply. Whoever ends up filling the position will be living out the work that started in Acts, chapter 6 as the disciples realized that making more disciples is really the most important part of being the church. Then, every single one of us can say we, too are “working for” God!

Peace, Pr. Matt

**NEW MEMBER DINNER** - If you would like to join St. Luke church, please plan to attend the upcoming dinner on Sunday, February 19th from 5-7pm. This is an informal dinner where you will meet others also interested in joining St. Luke. We are in the process of contacting those that we know have an interest for membership at this time. If you do not receive a call in the next couple of weeks but have a desire to join St. Luke, please call the church office or speak to Pr. Matt.



**ADULT ED** - Meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Our session of "Who is Jesus" continues with upcoming classes of "The Resurrection of Christ", and "Why Jesus is Worth Saving". Hope to see you there!

**HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICE**

It has been the tradition of St. Luke to use the Holden Evening Prayer Service during Lent. This includes the following Wednesdays: February 29th, March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th at 6:30pm. This prayer service was written by Marty Haugen and includes many beautiful hymns. The Confirmation youth will be participating in the weekly worship services.

**Hunter Safety Classes** will be held at St. Luke, led by Lance Newton the following days: Tuesday, February 7, 6-9pm; Tuesday, the 21st from 6-9pm; Friday the 24th from 6-9pm, Tuesday the 28th from 6-9pm; Friday, March 2nd, 6-9pm and Saturday, March 3rd from 8am until noon. For more information please call Lance Newton at 644-4344.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. Worship with Holy Communion will be held at 10am and 6:30pm.

**ST. LUKE SENIORS** are encouraged to attend the 10am February 22nd Ash Wednesday Service, have some time to chat and then have lunch together downstairs at 11:30am. Please reserve a lunch with Walt Thompson (306-1378). Stay tuned for March activity.....

Theology  
On  
Tap



Fri. Feb. 17th 7 PM

Aiden O'Reilly's  
(402 Main St., Allenton)

Karaoke  
with DJ "Jazzy" Jeff!

Join fellow members from St. Luke and bring your friends for an adult Karaoke night. Come to sing, or come to watch. It is sure to be a great time for everyone. ALSO: anyone willing to lend their karaoke music for Theology on Tap, please contact Jeff Fait @ 262-347-9503 or email him at jfait@yahoo.com We'd love to start building our music library again. For more info. contact Shelly Schulteis @ 644-5654

# SOUP & SANDWICH SERVING SCHEDULE



**February 29th Church Council**  
**March 7th Christian Ed**  
**March 14th Script**  
**March 21st Discipliship**  
**March 28th Worship and Music**

The Soup & Sandwich suppers are served from 5:30pm to 6:30pm during the 2012 Lent season. Above are the actual dates of the dinners and those serving each dinner. Sign up sheets will be posted, if you plan to attend, please sign up. Food is purchased based on those on the sign up sheet. The Confirmation Class will be highlighting, praying for, and preaching about the problem of World Hunger and how God might be using us to address it. The Wednesday night offerings will be given to World Hunger.



- Releasing children from poverty

**COMPASSION**  
in Jesus' name

St Luke will be participating in Compassion Drive during the season of

Lent. Compassion Sunday is a national event that helps us grow in our understanding of God's very special love for the poor. It's also an opportunity for each of us to intervene in the life of at least one child in poverty. Prayerfully consider sponsoring a child and saving a life for Lent instead of "giving something up". More information will be forth coming. For more information, contact Shelly Schulteis at (262) 644-5654 or visit [compassionsunday.com](http://compassionsunday.com)



Through Super Bowl weekend, February 5th, the Sunday School children will place their offerings in buckets to pick whether they want an AFC team or NFC team to win the big game. We will announce the "winner" of this contest, but the real winner will be the Slinger Food pantry, as every dollar collected will be donated directly to support their cause.

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Also, St. Luke will again be participating in the "Souper Bowl of Caring", whose vision is to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. Our youth will be armed with soup pots and collecting donations for those who are hungry in our community.

*"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."*

## LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES IN 2012

Scheduling church services and working out an amiable solution to accommodate all people who attend church on Christmas Eve has been an ongoing challenge for the Worship and Music Team. In 2011 they scheduled four services in hopes that attendance would be evenly spread out over all four thus allowing for comfortable seating at each. However, this was not the case. St. Luke was blessed by an overwhelming number of people wanting to attend the 4:00 p.m. service. There were more people than places to sit. Some left because there was nowhere to sit.

Taking this information into consideration, the Worship and Music Team went back to the drawing board on January 4, 2012. It appeared to the Team that many people want to attend church before having dinner. In hopes of finding a solution to the crowding at 4:00 pm in 2011, they have scheduled three Christmas Eve services for 2012, two of which are before the supper hour.

The Team has set the services for 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Worship and Music hopes that people who attended, or wanted to attend, the 4:00 p.m. service in 2011 will split their preference between the 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. services. These two services will have slightly different focuses. Both will be family services but the 5:00 p.m. hour will have a music emphasis with the choir and brass quartet performing.

The Team also hopes that the 8:00 p.m. candlelight service in 2012 (rather than the 10:00 p.m. service of 2011) will meet the needs of families who want to worship after dinner but want an earlier hour to return home.

# SCRIP Report

The SCRIP program saw increased congregational participation in 2011, allowing it to pay back the \$1,000 start up funds provided by Council at the program inception. A \$2,500 check was written to reduce the principal on the St. Luke building mortgage. The proceeds from all sales in the month of June were donated to Brick by Brick for Tanzania - Terry's Trek. Over \$500 was raised in support of Terry's Trek through SCRIP purchases. Congregation members contributed \$745 to be used to purchase food and gas cards for those in need.

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

# Zoomba!



**Join Denise Rutley beginning February 1 for 4 sessions of Zoomba! Meet downstairs at St. Luke 5:30-6:15pm, Wednesdays, February 1, February 8, February 15 & February 22. The cost is \$30 for the 4 session class. Ages 13+ welcome. Wear your least 'grippy' shoes, bring a water bottle, come with your friends! All abilities welcome. Never Zoomba'd before? Beginners welcome! All monies benefit the 18 youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2012. Please contact the church office to sign up or Poppy Elshaug with questions 414-217-4520.**

# St Luke Youth Happenings



HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
February 2012

Jamie Haldemann February 14  
Mitchell Billeb February 14  
Josie Bjorklund February 16  
Tony Koerner February 17  
Renee Wagner February 17  
Natalie Gundrum February 21  
Ben Faber February 23  
Katie Michalski February 28



Saturday, February 25th 6-9 pm. All ages St. Luke DJ Dance! Come dressed as your favorite character and dance the night away with your friends. (Character ideas, Disney princesses, Pirates, Veggie Tales, your favorite bible character or any of your favorite TV, Movie or book characters) All ages welcome—bring your friends, come and share in this fun night! Questions? Call Shelly or Tim Schulteis @ 262-644-5654.



Check us out on Facebook  
St. Luke High School Youth  
St. Luke Middle School Youth

Upcoming events:  
Saturday, March 3 Tubing at  
Sunburst! More info to come!

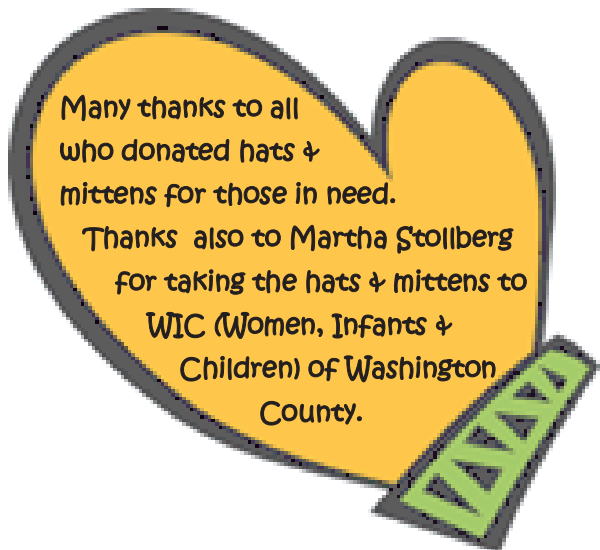


Questions or Comments? Contact Poppy Elshaug,  
Director of Youth & Family Ministry. cell: 414-217-4520  
Email or call any time! DCEPoppy@yahoo.com

**Did you know that.....**

• **The Spiritual Gifts Inventory and the Community of Gifts inventory is available on St Luke's website <http://www.stluke-slinger.org/> ??** You can complete the forms on-line – hit “submit” and we will access it – and together we can talk about what you discovered about your spiritual gifts! If you have any questions, please feel free to call Karen Berg at the church or at home – 262-335-6375.

• **We have begun a Coffee Hour ministry?** A schedule has been created for people to take a turn at preparing coffee and providing snacks on Sunday mornings. **If you have the gift of hospitality – like to bake or be a host we welcome you to join this ministry team.** Please talk to the people who are hosting on Sunday morning or Karen Berg if you would like to learn more about this opportunity.



**Thanks also to the congregation and Sunday School for supporting the Gingerbread House, Samaritan Health Care Center and the Operation Christmas Child.**



**LOOKING FOR SOUND PEOPLE! \*\***

Our worship services would run more smoothly - if we had a person running our sound board. It is difficult for Pr. Matt to lead the service and Karen Horwitz to play the keyboard AND also control the sound system!

**This is not a complicated board - we need someone there to....**

- Arrive 15 minutes before service
- Make sure system is turned on and that the volumes are correct
- Monitor sound levels during service (Special Music - Bible Readings and Sermon)
- Record selected Bible readings and sermon (directions are printed out on sound board)

**TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED!**

**Are you interested??? Please call Karen Berg at 644-6003 or 335-6375 for more information.**

\*\*Not necessary to be “sound of mind”!



**2012 CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE FOR \$15.** Please help support the 18 youth attending the 2012 National Youth Gathering this summer. Pick up after church on Sundays or call the church office.



*Remember in your thoughts and prayers...*

**We hold the following close in prayer:**

Joe & Poppy Elshaug & family on the death of Joe's grandfather.

Bob Johnson and family on the death of Bev.

The family of Barb Hill who passed away January 25.

**Congratulations to Marshall & Beth (Seif) Rettler** on the birth of Conner on December 6, 2011.

**Godspeed to David Abuya** on his retirement from the Air Force.

Updates always welcome on our military people that we pray for weekly.

# Valentine's Dinner

*Do you and your significant other want a romantic Valentine's dinner? Well we have the key. Come to St. Luke Lutheran Church on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 5 o'clock and we will serve you a nice quiet dinner. If you are thinking, now I have to get a baby sitter for the kids, then think again because we will take care of your kids too. We will supply them with dinner and a good time.*



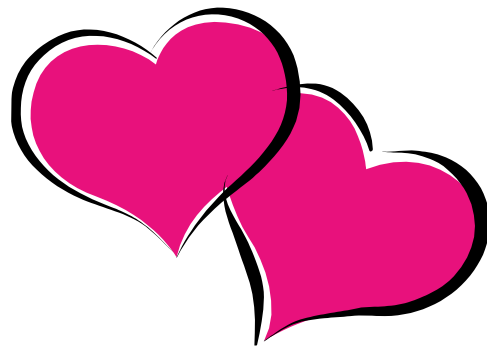
*For only \$30 a couple you can have beef tips with gravy, mashed potatoes, salad, dessert, and sparkling cider. Along with that you get child care right on hand.*



***February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
at 5 P.M.***

***4860 Arthur Road  
Slinger, WI 53086***

***R.S.V.P to Poppy at  
414-217-4520 or  
with questions***



*By coming to this event you are supporting the 19 youth that are going to New Orleans with the ELCA Youth Gathering.*

*Flyer by: Blake Spurling*

## PLEDGE UPDATE

**2011 Total Pledge** \$297,264  
 Received Towards Pledge \$281,062  
 Unpledged \$ 38,986  
 Total \$320,048

**2012 Pledge** \$292,599 = \$24,383.25/monthly  
 Through January 22 (one more Sunday in January)  
 Received Towards Pledge \$17,797.00  
 Unpledged \$ 2,867.56  
 Total \$20,664.56

## 2011 Year End Financials

**ACTUAL INCOME** \$368,028.62 + SPECIAL GIFT OF \$20,000

**BUDGET** \$309,872

**EXPENSES** \$338,434

**BUDGET** \$318,200

**MORTGAGE BALANCE** - \$178,009.88

### Food Pantry Needs

Pancake mix

Mandarin Oranges

Beverages (not soda)

Mustard

Paper towels.

Please place items in shopping cart at the top of the stairs. To contribute financially, please use envelopes behind the church chairs and write "Food Pantry" on the outside. Please include your name.

**MANY THANKS** - I would like to give a big thank you for all the adorable beanie baby donations for children in Puerto Parada, El Salvador. There will be a delegate from Grace Church in Thiensville going there in February. When I learned they were collecting beanie babies to give to the children there, I felt it would be fun to add to the collection. I doubt if any of the children there have ever even seen one of these loveable toys, much less owned one, so I'm sure they will bring joy to a lot of children. Our Sunday School has had occasional contact with Pastor Julio there. He serves four churches in a rural area that has much poverty but a great spirit. Last year the Sunday School collected money for Spanish-English dictionaries for high school students. They were much appreciated. Thank you.  
 Gert Roots

Andrew Schulz	02/01
Cameron Stewart	02/01
Cole Gindt	02/02
Hugo Tesch	02/02
Jerry Petersen	02/02
Doug Callies	02/03
Martha Stollberg	02/03
Sandra Stewart	02/03
Sara Byrd	02/03
Racheal Ziegelbauer	02/04
Logan Mantz	02/05
Tyler Giese	02/05
Connie Ruppenthal	02/06
Jackson Secord	02/06
John Schoenke	02/06
Steve Cummins	02/06
Steve Janz	02/06
Victoria Callies	02/08
Chase Leverance	02/09
Clarissa Janz	02/11
Karn Merriman	02/11
Lorraine Jutz	02/11
Tim Schulteis	02/11
Donald Muehlbauer	02/13
Mitchel Horton	02/13
Dale Schmidt	02/14
Erik Esselman	02/14
Jamie Haldemann	02/14
Kyla Schulz	02/14
Mitchell Billeb	02/14
Bob Johnson	02/15
Taylor Zwerlein	02/15
Josie Bjorklund	02/16
Anthony Koerner	02/17
Renee Wagner	02/17
Sarah Youngbauer	02/17
Devon Spiegel	02/18
Nathan Hayes	02/18
Nicole Okon	02/18
Marcia Boswell	02/19
Connor Ryan	02/21
Katlin Wagner	02/21
Natalie Gundrum	02/21
Al Zastrow	02/22
Michelle Zastrow	02/22
Benjamin Faber	02/23
Jim Jeffords	02/23
Leah Roskopf	02/23
Teri Gundrum	02/25
Kenneth Denow	02/26
Courtney Summ	02/27
Donna Rogers	02/27
Michael Palmisano	02/27
Ron Widmann	02/27
Amanda Herbst	02/28
Katelyn Michalski	02/28
Phyllis Held	02/28
Thomas Palmisano	02/28

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St. Luke Lutheran Church  
4860 Arthur Rd.  
Slinger, WI 53086



**“WE CANNOT  
direct the wind,  
BUT WE CAN  
adjust the sails”**

**Visit our Website:**  
[www.stluke-slinger.org](http://www.stluke-slinger.org)  
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**Fax** 262-644-7083  
**Pastor** - Matthew Short  
 pr\_matt@hotmail.com  
 262-309-5454  
**Dir. Youth & Family Ministry**  
 Poppy Elshaug dcepoppy@yahoo.com  
 414-217-4520  
**Discipleship Coordinator** - Karen Berg  
 kmberg@charter.net  
**Office Manager** - Michelle Kiekhaefer  
 office@stluke-slinger.org 644-6003  
**Church Musician** - Karen Horwitz  
 horwitzk@hotmail.com  
 630-877-5067  
**Sunday School Coordinator**  
 Lisa Spurling - spurling.lisa@yahoo.com  
**Choir Dir.** Sandy Duehring  
 sduehring@netzero.com 262-692-6371  
**Custodian** - Chester Woerishofer

**Council members:**  
 Chris Bayley - President  
 Wendy Vorpahl - Vice President  
 Jody King - Secretary  
 Timmerly Tamborino - Treasurer  
 Gale Holm, Larry Larsen,  
 Steve Stollberg, Denise Rutley,  
 Norm Tornow  
 councilpres@stluke-slinger.org  
 or: council@stluke-slinger.org