

October 2011



REFRESH & RENEW

By October 15, St. Luke will have welcomed five new members, hosted a wedding and three more infant baptisms. There is new life with the excitement of the young families choosing to have their babies baptized here. There is also new life in the commitment to membership our friends are making. With life, there is hope.

The Worship Team has coalesced in a fairly large group of ten or eleven members. Its formation has enabled clarity of roles and responsibilities and the assurance of back-up coverage when needed. The team examines Pastor Steve's Scripture, music, and opening prayer choices for the coming month to insure ample time for our new organist to plan her rehearsals and to have advance notice of any anticipated changes or special events.

The Alternative Worship Team is in early stages of formation with the goal of creating new and different worship experiences for our 10:30 service. We want to add different musical forms, interactive sermons, and a less formal atmosphere.

The Connections Team is about relationship-building. They are preparing to contact you so that you are better acquainted and connected with each other in Christ. Connection wants to know your needs and acquaint you with the needs of St. Luke.

The new Stewardship campaign will begin soon. Please consider how you can share your experiences with giving and how you received the Holy Spirit in unexpected ways. How we share ourselves and the Gospel is reflected in the joy and glory of what we receive in return every day.

In addition, the Food Pantry, Christ's Meal, Jesus and Java, Chrysalis for Men, Sophia Fellowship, Elder Circle, Prayer Ministry, UMW, Adult Education, Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Sanctuary Choir and St. Luke Ringers are doing well and meeting their mission.

On September 15, Rev. Dan Dick, Director of Connectional Ministries for the Conference, was scheduled to be here to clarify and enhance the work of the Visioning Process. Unfortunately, he was in bed with a fever and could not come. Pastor Steve facilitated the meeting of about fifty congregants. It was a frustrating meeting for many because it was expected that we could gain greater insight via Dan's experience. We did, however, share some important information: the stained glass windows are being repaired as well as various masonry and roof spots with water leaks; study of the ministries will include a review of existing programs and exploration of a new ministry; and it is anticipated that our required Ministry Plan will be completed by year's end.

At this point, the Visionary process needs clarity. We will have a meeting a meeting to share ideas and perceptions freely. Dan Dick's visit should provide a clear path so that recommendations can be made and a vote taken at Charge Conference. Dan Dick will be rescheduled as soon as possible. At his next visit, Dan will lead a general meeting for the entire congregation to be followed by a planning session with the Vision Leadership Team. Date to be announced.

Please note that you are all invited to participate in any of the teams, committees, or programs. Your input is desired.

God's Blessings,

Pastor Steve Hanusa

Joys & Concerns

Please keep the following in your prayers:

The family of Kay Copsey (Kevin Copsey's Mother), Tana Mullane, Gary Felde and Family, Pearl Turner, Florence Ebert, Jill Welti, Pat Lubbers, and Emmie.

LARRY MARTIN, brother-in-law of PAT ANDREW, is entering a cancer test group at UW Hospital in Madison.

BLAKE MARTIN, three-month-old grand nephew of PAT ANDREW, was taken to Children's Hospital after experiencing seizures. He will be there for more testing.

ANDY ANDREW was taken to the Emergency Room for testing after experienced some discomfort. Test were inconclusive and ANDY is back home.

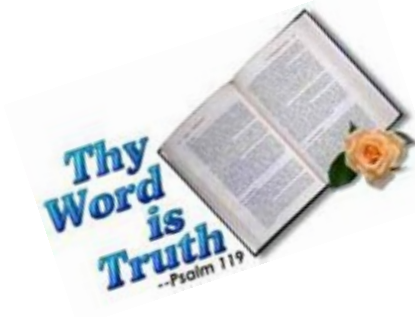
Military personnel: *Lindsay Kissinger, Amanda Vochting and Marya Wolff.*

A handwritten note in black ink that says "Thank you" in a cursive script. The note is written on a light-colored background with some faint yellow lines.

Thank you for the prayers, cards and notes we have received since the death of our nephew Jonathan. Your expressions of sympathy are very much appreciated.

Steve & Karen Rankin & family

continued ...



Read the Bible in one year. God's Word is full of promises, encouragement and guidance for you. This reading plan gives you a simple structure for reading through the Bible!

Every month we will continue to give you the verses to read through!

Oct 1: Malachi	Oct 17: Mark 6-7
Oct 2: Matt 1-4	Oct 18: Mark 8-9
Oct 3: Matt 5-6	Oct 19: Mark 10-11
Oct 4: Matt 7-8	Oct 20: Mark 12-13
Oct 5: Matt 9-10	Oct 21: Mark 14
Oct 6: Matt 11-12	Oct 22: Mark 15-16
Oct 7: Matt 13-14	Oct 23: Luke 1
Oct 8: Matt 15-17	Oct 24: Luke 2-3
Oct 9: Matt 18-19	Oct 25: Luke 4-5
Oct 10: Matt 20-21	Oct 26: Luke 6-7
Oct 11: Matt 22-23	Oct 27: Luke 8-9
Oct 12: Matt 24-25	Oct 28: Luke 10-11
Oct 13: Matt 26	Oct 29: Luke 12-13
Oct 14: Matt 27-28	Oct 30: Luke 14-16
Oct 15: Mark 1-3	Oct 31: Luke 17-18
Oct 16: Mark 4-5	



NEWS FROM EQUAL EXCHANGE Coffee Project

The UMCOR Coffee Project is a partnership between the United Methodist Committee on Relief and Equal Exchange. Each year, Equal Exchange makes a \$.15 donation for each pound of product purchased through the Project to the UMCOR Small Farmer Fund - another good reason to buy Equal Exchange coffees!



IN 2010, THIS DONATION TOTALED \$23,086.50!!

We would like to start an Classified section. It is for anyone that would like to buy, sell, or give away. If you have a business or would like to advertise a service please submit your ad to the office.

⇒ Pastor Steve needs a used snow blower. Please call him at 917-0558.



More Joys & Concerns

Rejoice with these families:

Weddings: Kimberly Bakich and John Marksman were united in marriage on September 10th. Michelle Lloyd and Joel Berg were married on September 24th.

Congratulations to Robin and Karin Stroede on the birth of their twins Megan & Patrick.

We welcome Charles Ramond Horness into the Church family through baptism on September 18th.

Mark your calendars....



WEIRD – coming soon to Wednesday nights!

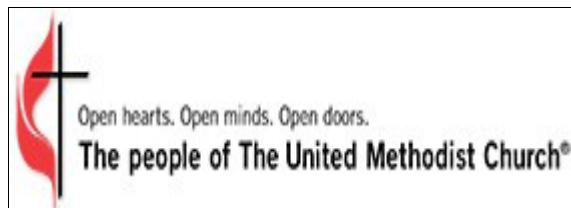
Sponsored by the Youth Ministry Team

Normal people are stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted these days. Relationships are strained – even in our own families and marriages. Money worries causes anxiety even though we live in one of the most prosperous countries on earth. The majority of normal people believe in God but the teachings of the Bible rarely make into everyday living.

SOUND FAMILIAR? If so, please come to a new DVD/discussion group to learn what it takes to move from being “normal” to weird. **WEIRD** – written by Craig Groeschel shares a Christ-centered philosophy to help people break out of the normal rut and live according to the rhythms of God’s grace and the truth of his Word.

Come to all or any of the following sessions: **OCT 5, 12, & 19**

NOV 2, 9, & 16 from 6:30-7:30 PM



Charge Conference news:

**Wesley UMC will join us for a joint Charge Conference on Sunday, December 11th at 4:00 pm.
All are invited to attend.**

A CIRCUIT 32 - SPONSORED EVENT

A workshop presented by Barbara Dick - Coordinator for the Spiritual Formation Resources Team for Wisconsin Annual Conference is being offered for all members of Circuit 32 Churches, which includes St. Luke.

The workshop is being held on Saturday October 15-from 9:00AM to 2:00PM- at Faith United Methodist Church in Sheboygan Falls, and includes lunch served by the Youth at Faith Church.

Advance registration is requested by calling Phyllis Callison - 467-3046 or Carol Nicla -980-8367. Cost is \$10.00 in advance. Upon arrival at the workshop \$5.00 will be reimbursed.

Each person attending will receive a copy of the book "Five Practices -Intentional Faith Development". We will hear the presentation and discuss how to do the "soul work" that connects us to others, immerses us in God's Word and helps us to grow in grace.

United Methodist Women



U M W Cookie Walk & Holiday Bazaar

As we enter the month of October, preparations are already under way for the 75th Diamond Jubilee Christmas Sale and Cookie Walk. The date of the Christmas Sale and Cookie Walk is November 19th from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The United Methodist Women of St Luke Church are busy planning and preparing for what will be our best sale ever. We will offer thousands of homemade decorated cookies, holiday fruitcakes, other homemade baked goods, and also homemade candies and snacks. We will again have St. Luke Bean Soup Kits available. If you wish to place a pre-bazaar order for these kits, please call Lois Chapman at 467-2743. Various handmade craft items as well as "Good as New" Christmas Decorations and American Girl books and doll clothing will be available.

These annual sales have been very well received over the years because of the generous support of our church family. We are again asking for your help to make this 75th Annual Sale successful. Please mark your calendars and say "yes" when asked to bake or decorate cookies, provide other baked items, or homemade candy. Please check your Christmas decorations for items that you no longer need or use.

Although the Christmas Sales and Luncheon have changed over the years, the purpose for them has not. The money raised through this sale will be used for mission projects supported by United Methodist Women as well as for projects right here in Sheboygan. Many of the items that St Luke United Methodist Women support financially are listed on the bulletin board at the parking lot entrance. Please join with us as we strive to make life a little better for the people in our city, nation and world.



- Lydia Circle of the United Methodist Women will meet on Thursday, October 6th at 1:30 in the parlor.

Change

- Rachel Circle will meet in the church parlor on September 29, NOT the usual fourth Thursday at 7:00 pm. We welcome visitors.

Thank you very much!



Thank you very much for making Vacation Bible School 2011 a WILD success! Because of your prayers, time, service, gifts, witness, & talents, nearly 30 children learned about God in a creative, energy packed way. Fountain Park, St. Luke, & children from the neighborhood made new friendships, worshiped together, & became a community of God. Thank you for your donations that made meals, decorations, stations, & purchasing materials possible. Thank you also to First United Lutheran ELCA of Sheboygan for donating part of their VBS set and also to Algoma Blvd UMC & First UMC of Oshkosh for letting us borrow their VBS Panda Kit.

Emily Gilbertson



Dear St. Luke Friends,

Thank you so very much for sharing in worship with me for so many years as organist. Sunday's service and following brunch were a delight. Your kind words and shared memories were deeply appreciated. Thank you to the many of you who were involved in making the morning so special. The efforts made by so many of you planning, cooking, decorating, singing in worship, and many other things made the day a joyous celebration. The generous monetary gift from you will be put to some use in the future. While I thank you for that, I value and thank you, so much more, for the friendships that I have developed over the years at St. Luke. I am looking forward to being part of the congregation on Sunday mornings and singing from a pew and not a bench.

Blessings,
Delpha McAloon

Leadership Changes

St. Luke Staff parish Relations Committee is pleased to introduce and inform the St. Luke membership of the following staff additions and changes relating to the vacancies in the church organist positions and Children's Ministry director.

Kristin Casper will be assuming the position of St. Luke Church organist for three Sundays per month with her first Sunday on September 25, 2011. She received her Bachelor of Music in July 2010 from St. Norbert College with a concentration in Piano Pedagogy. In addition to offering private piano lessons in Sheboygan, Kristin has played the organ and piano for Grace United Church of Christ in Kohler and First Presbyterian Church in Green Bay. We are delighted to have Kristin as our new organist and look forward to her beautiful music!

Ann Rodewald, who is a member of St. Luke and one of our talented musicians in our congregation, has willingly agreed to play the organ for St. Luke worship services one Sunday a month. We are fortunate to have Ann on staff and we feel a great deal of gratitude to her for her willingness to step forwards and share her talents with us.

Betsy Rogers, who currently serves as one of our Youth Ministries coordinators and our St. Luke music director, has agreed to assume the interim Children's Ministry position. Because of Betsy's numerous responsibilities at St. Luke, this position will require some changes in the Children's Ministry position including the additional hiring of a Project Manager for the Christmas Pageant (Susan Wickland) and the assignment of some volunteers to assist children and parents on Sunday mornings. St. Luke Staff Parish Relations Committee is continuing to try and recruit a Children's Ministry candidate with hopes that this goal can be reached by January 2012, if not before.

Please welcome and thank the individuals, who are joining us or assuming additional responsibilities at St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Gordy Hubbard
Chair- St. Luke Staff Parish Relations Committee

Carla Koepp has resigned as chair of the Administrative Board. She states that her responsibilities as Head Administrator of Lake Country Academy prevent her from fulfilling her responsibilities as chair. While her decision is respected, we will miss her good humor, efficiency, and highly effective leadership.

We are immensely grateful for her service.

Pastor Steve Hanusa