

Special points of interest:

May 2010

- Evelyne Thomas "Blooms Where She is Planted"
- From Our Music Director
- Laurie Larsen Wins National Writing Contest!
- Thinking Green by Laurie B. Vial, Energy Consultant to Presbytery of Great Rivers

From the Pastor . . .

A few days after Easter a church member came to me and expressed how nice Easter was and that it was so nice to have two services. They went on to share their opinion of, wouldn't it be nice to have two services each Sunday. My response is that it would be great for St. Luke Union Church to have two church services on Sunday, but what would it take to come to a point where this decision needed to be made? Other questions then arise. Would a second service take place on Sunday morning and look exactly like the first service or would it be an alternative service on Sunday evening? After this past Easter conversation, I have begun to vision and think about what the future of our worship schedule might look like. This is what I have devised. On a typical Sunday morning the average worship attendance at St. Luke



Union is anywhere between 110 and 140 people. The sanctuary holds 150 people very comfortably and 175 people with some closeness. An average worship attendance of 200 people would be impossible with one service. There is a good rule of thumb, in main line churches, that on any given Sunday one half of its members attend worship. We currently have around 270 members, therefore holding us true to the rule of thumb of one half attend worship on any Sunday. If one half of our membership were to bring one new member to St. Luke Union Church, then we would be talking about

two worship services and more.

St. Luke Union Church is a wonder place that proclaims the love of God in all we do. When people come through the doors to worship or become a part of one of our programs, they are infected with our love of God. Let's stop being the best kept secret in town and simply invite someone to church. The good news of the Gospel is not just for us, it's for all children of God. Who is your one person?

Peace,
Pastor Andy

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Evelyne Thomas “Blooms Where She is Planted” Church’s Call to Orphans and the Charter of Compassion

At the November Presbytery workshop entitled, "The Church's Call to Orphans and the Charter of Compassion," Evelyn Thomas, elder from St. Luke Union Church-Bloomington, learned from Dr. Jane Liedtke about the needs of orphans in the People's Republic of China.

Dr. Liedtke is the founder of Our Chinese Daughter's Foundation, and she helps distribute knitted baby

caps to both orphanages and to the first children's hospice unit in China. Evelyn, a retired nurse, got started right away knitting baby caps, and when she found herself temporarily at Manor Care nursing home after an illness, she also began teaching knitting to the residents there, so they too could knit caps for the orphans.

Evelyn blooms wherever she is planted, and the gift of her time and talent, in

this way, means that babies and their caregivers half a world away will be warmed by more than the knitted caps.



Home Bible Class

The Home Bible Class will meet Thursday, May 13th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We will study Jeremiah 13:1-17 and Chapter 3 entitled “The Belt of

Commitment” in our study guide *Jeremiah-Demanding Love*.

All ladies of the church and friends are invited to attend this class.

Youth Bake Sale May 16th

Attention SNAC Parents!

The youth will be hosting a bake sale on Sunday, May 16th, to earn money for Triennium.

Please bring your homemade or store-bought baked goods to church Sunday morning.

Individually wrapped (4-6 cookies, brownies, etc. in a baggie) seem to go well.

If you won't be at church, you can drop off your baked goods at the Desmond's home.

If you have questions, please contact Tammy

Desmond.

May 16th is also Confirmation Sunday.



Welcome New Members

We welcomed 7 new members last month; they include:

Sandi Gifford
9752 N 1600 E
Bloomington, 61705

Sandi is Pastor Andy's wife and Ben and Seth's mom. She is a dietitian and is interested in running and wellness.

Jeremy & Amanda
Rambo 310 S State St
Bloomington, 61701

Amanda works at Heartland College and

enjoys exercising, sewing and reading. Jeremy works at State Farm and has several interests, including golf, bowling, outdoors, music and movies.

Bud & Norma Roberts
2024 E Jackson St
Bloomington, 61701

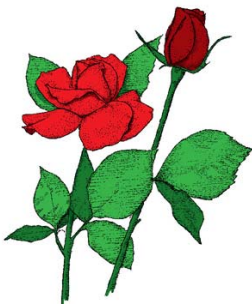
They are both pastors and spent several years working in India. Bud enjoys choir, orchids and carpentry. Norma is interested in teaching, singing, writing and studying "what makes churches tick." She has

worked with members of St. Luke Union for the past few years while we were in transition. They both sing in the choir.

Roger & Sherry Taylor
309 Oakdale
Normal, IL 61761

Roger is retired from his own plumbing business; Sherry did the office work for the business. Roger enjoys reading. Sherry also enjoys reading and gardening; she sings in the choir as well.

Mother-Daughter Banquet



May 10th 6:00 p.m.
 Adults - \$8.00
 Children (3-10) - \$5.00
 Toddlers (2 & younger)
 - Free

A great program for all ages is planned!

All women of the church are invited.

All of you are daughters! Invite someone to come with you. You can decide which one is the mother and which is the daughter!

Make your reservation(s) for the Mother-Daughter Banquet today!

Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall each Sunday - and during the week too!

Group & Bake Sale Results

Well, we had another successful Group & Bake Sale!

While it was a bit smaller than usual, we still had quality goods that our customers come to expect from the St. Luke Union Church Group Sale.

We made roughly \$3,300. \$2000 of that goes to the church and \$1,300 goes to Kris Sulzberger's benefit.

This sale wouldn't have happened without a lot of hard work from all of the members of the congregation; from set-up to tear down.

People came forward and helped - **Thank You!**

For those of you who keep saying "Oh I wish I had brought" . . . there is always October!

Yvonne Harrison
& Sarah Franks

From Our Music Director

Since Easter, we have changed some of the musical aspects of the service slightly.

We are looking to put more life and variety in the service utilizing more material from the *Songs for Praise and Worship* hymnal and potentially other resources.

Be assured some of the traditional material is not gone; we are just adding more variety to the mix.

I will also be adding a couple more pieces we can sing as the final song in the service.

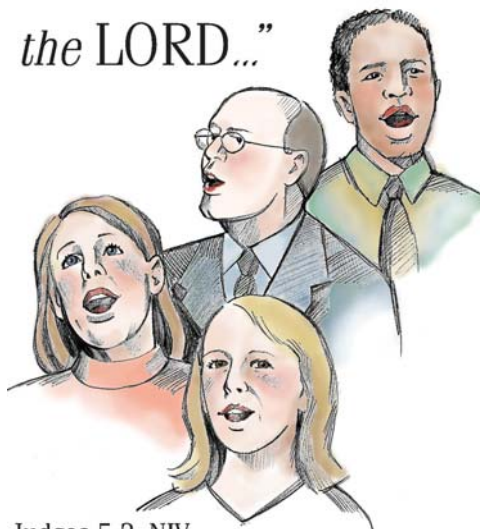
These will be pieces that you can sing without hymnals, so you are always welcome to hold hands as is the tradition.

The choir, bell choir, youth, and other music participants have done a fabulous job, and we greatly thank you for your gifts from God in our services.

Choir will be singing through May and then at Funk's Grove.

Throughout the summer, we will have various special

"I will sing to the LORD, I will sing; I will make music to the LORD..."



Judges 5:3, NIV

music contributions, and I encourage a wide variety.

If you would like to volunteer or have a suggestion, let me know.

Also during June, the organ will undergo a major overhaul in the "Great" section (basically the left half where you can see the pipes).

The "Swell" section (the enclosed part to the right) was re-done a few years ago.

It will be out of service for 1-2 weeks.

I have been using more piano lately and will

continue through that time.

I skipped the Spring organ tuning because of this work, and various ranks are quite bad right now because of the weather changes.

Finally, I want to continue to thank the congregation so much for your support as Kris continues her cancer fight.

I also need to thank the choir for their patience as some of my planning ahead just hasn't been typically what I do.

As I write this, the benefit is coming up Saturday, April 24th; the support from St. Luke Union Church and Metcalf School has been tremendous and a total blessing.

Hopefully the results of Kris's scans actually being done as I type this will show the new treatment working.

In Christ,

David

Thank You



“When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.”

The family of Margaret Bork would like to thank each of you for “treasuring” Margaret during her declining health and recent passing.

It’s always difficult to let go of those we love, yet we celebrate Margaret’s faith-filled life and are reminded

of the promises of eternal reunions when this earthly life ends.

The friends and family of St. Luke Union Church have provided loving support with cards, calls, visits, food, memorials, and persistent prayer.

They are all appreciated beyond words.

We’re grateful to Pastor Andy for his loving care

and concern, the Women’s Association for the luncheon after Mom’s service, and the many gestures of comfort from many of you.

With peace and thankful hearts,

The Edwin Bork Family,
(In loving memory of Margaret)

Church Women United - May Friendship Day

Church Women United will be celebrating *May Friendship Day* on Friday, May 7th at 9:00 a.m. at First Christian Church with a continental breakfast and service following.

All women of the church are invited.

Fellowship of the Least Coin will be received.

Please see Dottie Metcalf for a \$2 ticket following our Sunday worship.

Money Matters As of March 31, 2010



GENERAL FUND	JAN-MAR BUDGET	JAN-MAR ACTUAL
Receipts	\$62,875	\$63,269
Disbursements	\$60,340	\$56,221

Triennium Fundraiser!



Eight of our youth will be attending Triennium at Purdue University from July 20-24.

Please help them financially by supporting their bake sale on Sunday, May 16, before and after church.

If you like to bake, the youth will graciously accept your donated baked goods for their sale, also!

Most of the baked goods freeze wonderfully, so come ready to stock your freezer!

If you have questions or would like to donate baked goods, please contact Tammy Desmond.

Thinking Green by Laurie B. Vial Energy Consultant to Presbytery of Great Rivers

Laurie's weekly column appears in Good News from Great Rivers, an e-mail newsletter published by the Presbytery of Great Rivers each Monday.

To subscribe go to www.greatriverspby.org and use your arrows to move to the far upper right hand corner of the home page.

Use the form to fill in your

e-mail address.

Laurie's column is normally at the bottom of the newsletter each week.

Here we will share one of Laurie's recent columns each month.

Laurie is available for energy audits, as a speaker and any consulting dealing with energy conservation and environmental



stewardship related to our church building and our personal lives.

If you don't have access to e-mail a "hard copy" of her column is posted on our bulletin board each week.

Contact Laurie at greenenergy@greatriverspby.org or 309-242-8571.

Laurie Larsen Wins National Writing Contest!

Laurie Larsen, daughter of Chuck and Carol Parlette, is a published author, and she traveled to New Orleans in early March to accept the EPIC award for her novel, *Preacher Man*.

The EPIC Award honors excellence in electronically published books, and *Preacher Man* won the

award in the Spiritual and Metaphysical Romance category.

Chuck and Carol, proud parents, were present at the Awards Banquet.

Check out her book!



Moderator's Notes

As I sit at my desk on this beautiful April morning, my thoughts are more random than organized.

You see, I missed the initial deadline to submit this information to the newsletter.

Jessie is very good at sending me a gentle reminder that it is time to submit information for the New Directions newsletter.

Unfortunately, when the reminder arrived last week, there was not any "white space" on my calendar.

My days were crammed full of meetings followed by evening meetings and programs.

The weekend involved a quick trip to College Station for Parent's Weekend at Texas A&M University.

Now, I have received my final notice from Jessie and I have found a little "white space" to jot down some thoughts.

I never ceased to be amazed by the caring and concern displayed by members of St. Luke Union Church.

So many church members do so much behind the



scenes to help others and help the church.

Last week epitomized what makes St. Luke Union Church a special place.

On Monday and Tuesday, members of the church came together to celebrate the lives of two members of the church who had passed.

Funeral services just don't happen on their own.

It takes people to prepare bulletins, work the sound board, arrange flowers, prepare food, set up tables and chairs, and clean up afterwards.

We are fortunate to have church members who readily give of their time to make these events special.

Tuesday afternoon, the

youth assisted in moving tables and chairs in preparation for the Group & Bake Sale.

Countless others volunteered their time to assist with displaying and pricing items, baking, staffing the sale, and then cleaning up.

It seems whatever the task, members of our church pitch in to accomplish what needs to be done.

I am very proud to be a member of a church that cares so much about each other and the church.

My second random thought is about spring.

As I look out my office window, I can see the new leaves on the trees and flowering bushes.

So, I started to think how do you know it is spring?

You know it is spring when the trees and bushes are in bloom, the daffodils and tulips are flowering, people with seasonal allergies have itchy eyes and runny noses, farmers are putting in their crops, and you can finally put away the winter coats, scarves, and gloves.

(Continued on next page)

Moderator's Notes (Continued from page 7)

In the life of St. Luke Union Church, you know it is spring when some of our members return from warmer climates; conversations after church no longer focus on how cold it is or how much snow you shoveled; members of the choir break out their sunglasses

during the service; and we hold the Group Sale.

Soon, we will be holding our service at Funk's Grove and summer officially begins, at least for St. Luke Union Church.

Brent Paterson
Moderator



Special Project (Crisis Nursery Program)

These gifts were given to the glory of God and:

Given by:

Mary Jane Trower
Vi Fenstermaker
Charlene A. Beringer
Marian Harris
Margie Marquardt

Bill & Karen Walters

Ray & Karin Hunt
Margie Marquardt
Bob & Joyce Pomrenke
Jim & Louise Moore
Lynne Wright
Wil & Betty Stevenson

In Memory of:

Vernon B. Trower
Frances Anderson
Sharon & Albert E. Beringer, Jr.
Russell Harris
Carl Marquardt

In Honor of:

Karen's Parents

In Celebration of:

Spring & Easter
My Family
Family Blessings
Jack, Our New Great-Grandson
Aiden & Skylar Wright
Easter

Easter Lilies

The Worship Ministry Team is grateful to all who helped make the sanctuary so beautiful on Easter and to those who made contributions for the Special Project.

Given by:

Gary & Linda Weirman

Dottie Metcalf

Doris Koppersmith

Richard & Doris Rice

Dede Verplaetse

Glenn & Sharon Stille

Edwin J. Bork

Becky Blum

Lisa, Anna & Emma DeBruine

Lauren Margaret Patsos

Lori, Phillip & Jacob Blankenship

Brent & Jan Paterson

Denny & Bonnie Redick

Brent & Jan Paterson

In Memory of:

Harold & Ethel Weirman

Ken Metcalf

Karen Frost &

Koppersmith Family

Sandra Rice Gilles

Dee McClure

Walter & Clara Stille

Margaret Bork, Jim Bork,

Corry Bork, & Brandon Bork

Bob & Earlene Potts

Jeff DeBruine

Margaret Patsos &

William Robinson

Ron Blankenship

Audrey Paterson

In Celebration of:

Our Family

The Many Blessings Received!



May Birthdays

Ramona Spears - 1
 Barbara Stille - 1
 Joy Hippensteele - 2
 Adam Moret - 2
 Megan Paterson - 4
 Michelle Nuttall - 5
 Matt Wright - 5
 Jay Hammer - 6
 Pat Rosenbaum - 8
 Heather Paterson - 10
 Doug Ferrier - 11
 Aiden Wright - 11
 Josh Koopman - 14



Sandy Allen - 15
 Steven Gonigam - 17

Roger Taylor - 21
 Kendra Moneggia - 23
 Amanda Rambo - 23
 Sanae Ferrier - 24
 Harvey Wells - 24
 Twyla Tabor - 26
 Lynn Warner - 26
 Ken Delanois - 27
 Emma Stille - 28
 Talia Clagherty - 31
 Penny Kellogg - 31
 Gary Weirman - 31

May Anniversaries

Gary & Linda Weirman - May 3rd	David & Kris Sulzberger - May 23rd
James & Dawn Beemer - May 4th	Brent & Jan Paterson - May 25th
Sam & Ruth Pittmon - May 13th	John & Susan Boerner - May 26th
David & Jennifer Clagherty - May 20th	

Men's Ministry Event

The next Men's Ministry gathering has been planned.

We will be meeting at Pastor Andy's home for an evening of fellowship and to learn the art of beer production.

We will meet at 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 7th at 9752 N 1600 E Rd, Bloomington.

If you need directions, see Pastor Andy.

Please sign-up on bulletin board if you are planning to attend.



Mark Your Calendars for Vacation Bible School!

Join us on a "High Seas Expedition!"

August 1st - 5th
 More information will be coming soon!

Thank You

April 17, 2010

St. Luke Union Church
2101 E. Washington St
Bloomington, IL 61701

Dear Members of St. Luke Union,

I wanted to say thank you for all the prayers, well wishes and cards you sent my way during my recent heart surgery and recovery. As many of you know, the surgery went well and I'm now in cardiac rehabilitation. I've lost weight, am eating right and feel better than ever.

Your support was greatly appreciated and it was nice to know my St. Luke family was there for me.

Sincerely,

John Waters



Pastor Andy's Trivia Question

Did you guess the answer to last month's trivia question?

According to the book of Acts, what sparks a riot in Ephesus?

Answer:

Local silversmiths who thought their businesses were in jeopardy.

~ Acts 19:21-41

May Trivia Question:

Where did Jesus speak to Cleopas and one other man after his resurrection?



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