

St. Luke Lutheran Church

900 Maryvale Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225-2702
716-633-6752-www.stluke-buffalo.org

We are called by God's grace to enlighten all people in Jesus Christ



The Monthly Newsletter since 1954

February 2012

Rev. Chris Agne
Pastor

Pam Maconaghy
Editor

Email: stlukechips@yahoo.com

SERVICES

Saturday

5:00 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

9:45—10:45

Christian Education

11:00 am -

Blended/Contemporary

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From The Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's February! And you know what that means...retail outlets will attempt to inundate you with Valentine's Day memorabilia. They will try to convince you that the best way to show affection for that special someone in your life is of course, to buy them candy hearts, fake flowers, and little stuffed animals in coffee mugs.

But, what about those of us who don't have a "special someone?" For some of us, Valentine's Day can be a terrible day. So let's talk about that for bit.

The Christian church is sometimes accused of being the exclusive domain of married couples with kids. And sometimes this is a very valid criticism. But God's Word has a lot to say to (as Beyonce would put it) "all the single ladies" and single guys too!

First, we have the examples of some single biblical people. All them did great and wonderful things. They include: St. Paul, John the Baptizer, Anna the Prophetess, Naomi (mother-in-law of Ruth), and, of course, Our Lord Jesus! Further, Hebrews 13 tells us that God will never leave us nor forsake us! Psalm 16 speaks of God being our inheritance. Psalm 68 reassures us that God gives the lonely a family.

And we know that God is always faithful when it comes to keeping his promises! So, whether you happen to be single by choice or single for some other reason, remember: To God, you are a special someone. And he does give you family, whether it's the parents and extended family you have or a really good friend, or your fellow believers here at St. Luke.

Whether we are single or coupled, Jesus calls us to tell of and show his love to everyone!

With Love,

--*Pastor Chris*





INFORMATION PLEASE!

Have you seen our new electronic information center? We now have a new way of sharing information with everyone attending services. Jen Agne is putting together and informational power point every week to be shown on the screen in the fellowship area. This information will scroll continuously before during and after services. If you have an event or some information that you would like to share with the congregation and would be appropriate for this venue, please contact Jen Agne at jen.agne@gmail.com and she can add your information to the weekly presentation.

2ND ANNUAL SOUP SALE UPDATE

As of Jan 15th, 50 people had ordered 113 qts. of soup! We realized a profit of \$600.00 from the soup sale. These proceeds will go to benefit our Food Pantry. Thanks to Karrie, Dee, Rita and Thank you to all who ordered soup and for your continued support of our food pantry.



Who to Call...

The Staff of St. Luke Lutheran Church stand ready to assist you in every way we can, and can be reached at church (716) 633-6752 or (716) 634-5560 weekdays. Our answering machine will take messages at 633-6752. Our FAX number is (716) 635-0718. Our email address is secretary@stluke-buffalo.org

Pastor	Chris Agne	413-1333
Organist	Thomas Mudd, Jr.	675-1065
Voice and Bell Choir Director	Thomas Mudd, Jr.	675-1065

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Fred Schmitt	686-0642
Vice-President—Personnel	Nancy Errett	289-4453
Vice-President—Property	Richard Taylor	626-4920
Treasurer	Linda Rowe	684-6236
Financial Secretary	Ken Knoll	683-7242
Recording Secretary	Pam Maconaghy	626-0949

BOARD CHAIRPERSONS

Spiritual Life/Congregational Care	Wally Grzyb	639-1904
Special Care & Human Services	Ellen Grant	308-6328
Youth and Family	Greg and LoriRose Tedesco	877-1717 or 207-5900
Resource Development	Dr. Thomas Kuhn	691-8121
Outreach and Mission Services	Marg Albert	875-9363
Christian Education/Life	Jacquie Albert	812-1374

BOARD OF ELDERS

Walter Grzyb	639-1904	Susanna Garofaro	688-7094
Karen Baglio	686-0670	Manfried Rieger	634-4669
Gene Benson	634-0900	Allan Riemer	771-3542
Craig Maconaghy	626-0949	Dave Shotwell	876-0364
David Male	634-2456		

FOR THE FOLLOWING

Address/phone corrections	Contact	
Altar Care	Karen Baglio	633-6752
Altar Flowers	Allan Riemer	771-3542
.Building Committee	Kathy Brogan	633-6752
Bulletin Announcements	Fred Schmitt	686-0642
"CHIPS" Newsletter	Karen Baglio	633-6752
Facility Maintenance	Pam Maconaghy	626-0949
Facility Use (scheduling)	Rich Taylor	626-4920
Food Pantry	Church Office	633-6752
LWML	Ed and Rita Loeffler	834-8021
LLL Representative	Fern Suckow	833-0969
Men's Club	Scott Zimmerman	681-9939
Youth Group	Fred Harbart	683-0436
Son Shine Committee	Greg and LoriRose Tedesco	877-1717 or 207-5900
	Gene Benson	634-0900
	Dave Shotwell	876-0364
Special Care and Human Services	Ellen Grant	308-6328
Sunday School Information	Jacqueline Albert	875-9363
	Bettyann Schmitt	686-0642
Thrivent	Bud Foster	632-4187
Weekly Contributions	Ken Knoll	683-7242



DO YOU GOODSEARCH?

Did you know that every time you search on the internet (and who doesn't do that a million times a day?) you could be earning a donation to St. Luke?

Simply go to GoodSearch.com and download their search tool. You search for St. Luke, Cheektowaga NY in their database and pick that as your cause to support. Every time you use that search engine, money is set aside for St. Luke. You can also GoodShop and many sites will make donations based on a percentage of your purchase price as well. The tool bar will also show you discounts and deals you can get on those participating websites, so you can donate to St. Luke and save at the same time. You can even track how much you earn by going to the GoodSearch web site. So when you have to search....make it a good one and support St. Luke at the same time!



Mid-Week

Lenten Series

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. There will be two services scheduled on Ash Wednesday here at St. Luke – at 1 p.m. in the afternoon and 7:30 p.m. in the evening.

Ash Wednesday

February 22 – Identical communion services at 1:00 and 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke.

Dates and places are as follows:

6:00 p.m. – *Soup & Sandwich Supper*

7:15 p.m. - *Hymn Sing in Church*

7:30 p.m. - *Lenten Service*

February 29th – Holy Cross

8900 Sheridan Drive in Clarence
“Judas”

March 7th – Pilgrim

44 Chapel Rd, Kenmore
“Annas”

March 14th - Salem

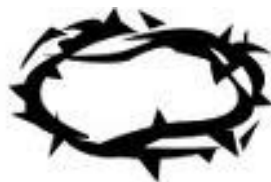
10 McClellan Circle in S. Buffalo
“Caiaphas”

March 21st - St. Luke

900 Maryvale, Cheektowaga
“Peter”

March 28th - St. John's

67 Litchfield in Depew
“Herod”



In our prayers for the Lord's healing:

- Bob Dersam
- Sandy Bednarz (sister of Pam Maconaghy)
- Phil Garafano
- June Hoffman (mother of Karen Dipaolo)
- Ben Heppel
- Brian Merrit (nephew of Valerie Gurdino)
- Bob Swannie (cousin of Bonnie Reiger)
- Stephan Hegna
- Fred Dipaolo
- Chuck Walters
- Brenda Otte (former youth worker at St. Luke)
- Heidi Stephens,
- Diane Neuhauser
- Donna Eggert
- Mary Mays (friend of Chuck and Betty Walters)
- Christian Nowakowski (granddaughter of Valerie Guardino)
- Dorothy Reid (grandmother of Rose Mudd)
- Karlyn Finucane(Lutheran Chorale)
- William Dhalke
- Jay Bliss (father of LoriRose Tedesco)
- William and Alice Tedesco (grandparents of Greg Tedesco)
- Bernard Brzezowski
- Anne Marie Whisner
- Berndine Walters
- Barbara D'orazio
- Gerre Tropman
- Walter, Bryan & Kayla Webb
- Kenneth Knaup
- Paula Dafgard
- Jeanette Tober

Beginning January 1, 2012 the prayer request section will be updated on a regular basis. A request will be published for 4 weeks. After the 4 week time period the name will be removed unless otherwise notified to the office. Thank you.

YEAR END STATEMENTS

From the Financial Secretary—If you have previously requested a statement confirming your 2011 envelope contributions, kindly check the red box on the kiosk in the fellowship area. If you have not previously requested a statement, and require one, kindly fill in your name and envelope number on the sign up sheet on the kiosk. Statements will be available the following week.



HELP WANTED!

Now that Western New York has finally started its winter weather, help is needed to snow blow the sidewalks and entrances of the church. Hearty folks, willing to brave the onslaughts of Cheektowaga blizzards, are being sought. It's not really quite that bad, but help is needed both daytime and evenings to keep the sidewalks clear for our neighbors and worshippers. If interested, please contact Phil Horn or Ed Loefler.

MORE HELP WANTED!

The Board of Christian Education is looking for any interested volunteers willing to help coordinate this year's Vacation Bible School. It can be run by an individual or as a team. There are many resources available, along with the help of the board. If you are



interested, please contact Jacquie Albert at albejm12@yahoo.com. We would like to begin the planning by the end of February. Please prayerfully consider any thing you can do to assist with this ministry.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES:

Pastor Mike Blackwell is planning two travel opportunities in 2012.



He will lead a bus tour of the Hudson Valley and New York City June 12-16 including stops at the United States Military Academy at West Point and the Statue of Liberty.

There has been a change in plans for the Mediterranean Cruise that

had been planned and instead they are planning a Western Caribbean Cruise for November 11—18. For brochures and details call Pastor Mike (771-3474).



CAMP PIONEER 5TH ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON AND QUILT AUCTION

The Camp Pioneer 5th Annual Spring Luncheon and Quilt Auction to benefit Pioneer Camp Scholarships, will be held on Saturday, May 19th at Salem Lutheran Church, 10 McClellan Circle, Buffalo, NY.

This scholarship program benefits military children and families, foster children and those with developmental disabilities. They are also looking for local quilters to make and donate a quilt for the auction. This includes, mini-quilts, small quilts, baby quilts, table runners, pillows and wall hangings. Completed quilt projects are due Friday, April 20th. Please see the bulletin board or call the St. Luke Church Office for more information, including quilt donation, drop-off or purchasing tickets for the event.



COMMUNITY RESPONSE

Sometimes people in the congregation wonder “why do we let all these people from outside the congregation use our church facility”? This Christmas season we received a card from the Tuesday night Recovery Group. The comments written in the card by members of the group tell the story:

- Thank you so much for allowing us to meet here with Recovery all the time. It is important that you know that it is greatly appreciated. God Bless all!
- Your kindness and consideration throughout the years has certainly not gone unnoticed by us. Thank you so much!
- Thanks for having the doors open to us. It saved my life.
- My husband and I have only been in recovery for a few months, but it has already made a significant change for the better in each of us and in our relationship. Thank you so much for letting us meet in your beautiful church

The small gesture of providing a place for this group to meet has cost us very little, but has proven to be a precious gift to those who find this group to be a vital support in their recovery.



THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE

Pastor Agne will be directing a play in February. The Title is "Trapped". It's about a man who feels trapped by the weight of his family history, and how God's love and power is demonstrated even in the midst of that. The play will be performed at several churches in the area, including St. Luke. The performance at St. Luke is on February 12 at 4 pm. The other performances are at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Gowanda at 7 pm on Feb 3 and Eden Elementary school on Feb 4 at 7 pm. Please come and support Pastor Agne in this creative endeavor!



Our Eastern District Mite giving is very low! We use these Mite donations to pay for our biennial mission grants. Mission grants that still need to be funded include Materials for Haiti Christian school, First Trinity Lutheran, Amherst, NY for \$2,500; Education Inclusion Ministry. St. Mark Lutheran, Mendon, NY for \$2,000; Support for the Mohawk Valley Burmese Refugee Relocation Center. Grace Lutheran Church, Canastota, NY for \$3,700; and Television air time with Total Christian Television Network. Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. for \$ 3,273. We only have a few months to pay all our grants.

We are challenging you to find new ways to extend you Mite giving.

As you plan you 2012 personal Mission giving, have you considered making a monthly donation to LWML Mites Here are some other fun ways to up your Mite Box giving;

- * Do You buy a coffee or soft drink every day?—Donate the same amount to your Mite Box
- * Instead of that afternoon snack— Donate that amount to your Mite Box
- * February is National Chocolate Lovers Month—Make a donation to your Mite Box for every chocolate you eat.
- * February is National Dental Month—Make a donation to your Mite Box every time you brush your teeth.—I'm sure you can think of many more fun ways to give to LWML.

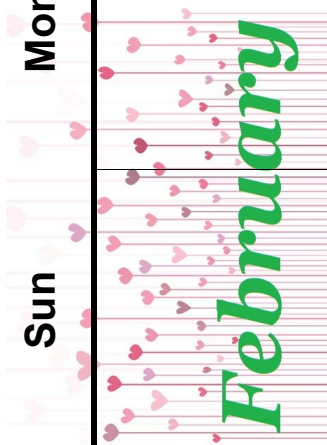



Donations can be put in the “Giant Mite Box” in the fellowship area or see Sue Bethin, our treasurer.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

TOGETHER WE CAN REACH OUR MISSION GOAL!

February 2012

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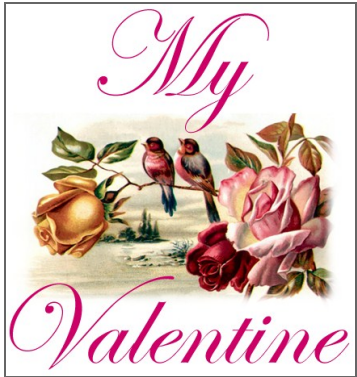
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
5 <u><i>Fifth Sunday After Epiphany</i></u> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship	6 5:30 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Alanon 7:00 pm Barbershop Chorus	7 10:00 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm Trustees mtg. 7:00 pm Elders mtg. 7:00 pm Lutheran Chorale 7:30 pm Recovery	1 5:30 pm Exercise	2 9:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Paper Cuts 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Voice Choir 7:00 pm Arthritis Conn.	3 7:00 pm Girl Scouts	4 5:00 pm Worship
12 <u><i>Sixth Sunday After Epiphany</i></u> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Christian Ed.	13 5:30 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Alanon 7:00 pm Barbershop Chorus	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 10:00 am Food Pantry 7:00 pm Lutheran Chorale 7:30 pm Recovery	15 11:00 am LWML 5:30 pm Exercise	16 9:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Paper Cuts 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Voice Choir 7:00 pm Arthritis Conn.	17 6:00 pm dinner 6:30 pm Sm. Group Bible Study for Everyone 7:00 pm Girl Scouts	18 9:00 am Fundraising Mtg. 5:00 pm Worship Service/
19 <u><i>The Transfiguration of our Lord</i></u> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship	20 <i>President's Day Observed</i> 5:30 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Alanon 7:00 pm Barbershop Chorus	21 10:00 am Food Pantry 6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 7:00 pm Lutheran Chorale 7:30 pm Recovery	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Services @ 1:00 & 7:30 pm 5:30 pm Exercise	23 9:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Paper Cuts 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Voice Choir 7:00 pm Arthritis Conn.	24 7:00 pm Girl Scouts	25 5:00 pm Worship
26 <u><i>First Sunday in Lent</i></u> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Christian Ed. 11:00 am Worship	27 5:30 pm Exercise 6:30 pm Men's Club 7:00 pm Alanon 7:00 pm Barbershop Chorus	28 10:00 am Food Pantry 7:00 pm Lutheran Chorale 7:30 pm Recovery	29 5:30 pm Exercise			

ST LUKE YOUTH BLOG

Every February we celebrate Valentine's Day by giving flowers, candy and cards to those we love. We do this in honor of Saint Valentine. You may be wondering, "Who is St. Valentine"? Time to brush up on your Valentine's history!

Legend has it that Valentine was a priest who served during third century Rome. There was an Emperor at that time by the name of Claudius II. Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those that were married. With this thought in mind he outlawed marriage for young men in hopes of building a stronger military base. Supposedly, Valentine, decided this decree just wasn't fair and chose to marry young couples secretly. When Emperor Claudius II found out about Valentine's actions he had him put to death.

Another legend has it that Valentine was an imprisoned man who fell in love with his jailor's daughter. Before he was put to death he sent the first 'valentine' himself when he wrote her a letter and signed it 'Your Valentine', words still used on cards today. Perhaps we'll never know the true identity and story behind the man named St. Valentine, but this much is for sure...February has been the month to celebrate love for a long time, dating clear back to the Middle Ages. In fact, Valentine's ranks second only to Christmas in number of greeting cards sent. (taken from Kaboose.com)



So, when you're getting ready to send out your Valentine's Day cards to friends and family...don't forget to show some love to our greatest of Valentine's...our Heavenly Father, who wants to "Be My Valentine", not just on February 14th, but every day of the year! Happy Valentine's Day!

LoriRose

207-5900/bliss_tedesco@aol.com call me/email me/text me/facebook me/tweet me...or just come and say "Hi!"

Youth Events

Shrove Tuesday Pancake and sausage Dinner will be on Tuesday February 21, 2012 at 6 pm. Please see the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. There is no charge to attend.



Small Group Bible Study 4 Everyone (SGBS4E) will be on Friday February 17th. Dinner is at 6pm, followed by the bible study at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome—feel free to bring a friend!



The Theme Tray/Chinese Auction (to benefit our Youth Program and send our kids to Convention) will be held on Saturday March 24, 2012. We are in need of donations...theme baskets, larger items for the Chinese Auction, gift cards...we can use it all! Let's make this the best Auction ever!!! Please contact Greg or LoriRose Tedesco with any questions or to get involved.

Help Wanted:

The Board of Christian Education is looking for any interested volunteers willing to help coordinate this year's Vacation Bible School. It can be run by an individual or as a team. There are many resources available, along with the help of the board. If you are interested, please contact Jacquie Albert at albejm12@yahoo.com. We would like to begin the planning by the end of February. Please prayerfully consider any thing you can do to assist with this ministry.





Jordyn Torcasio	2/2	Monica Aleksa	2/9	Clarice Foster	2/22
Sharon Gibson	2/5	Wendy Birkbeck	2/9	Simon Biegasiewicz	2/23
Susan Bliss	2/6	John Brusco	2/9	Maria D'Amico	2/23
Susanna Garofaro	2/6	Jayden Gauchat	2/9	Tyler Bethin	2/24
Douglas Giles	2/7	Kassandra Piatt	2/9	Donna Daly	2/24
Barbara Ferrulo	2/8	Neil Saulter	2/9	Jamey Gamble	2/25
Joy Gress	2/8	Fred Schmitt	2/10	Jeremy Gamble	2/25
Pearl Paradowski	2/8	Christopher Gress	2/11	Carol Hertel	2/25
		Rachel Brogan	2/12	Christopher Nelson	2/26
		Cole Brooks	2/12	Luke DiPaolo	2/27
		Rebecca Thompson	2/13	Allan Riemer	2/27
		Melody Rieger	2/15	Dominick Scardina	2/27
		Darryl Hart	2/16	CURTIS STUART	2/27
		Matthew Adams	2/18	Diane Vanaker	2/27
		Zachary Brudz	2/18	Shirley Wulf	2/27
		Cheryl Champagne	2/19	Daniel Yacobucci	2/27
		Thomas Potoczak	2/20	Anthony Broad	2/28
		Craig Maconaghy Sr.	2/21	Sharon Mercado	2/28
		Patricia Rzepka	2/21	Avis Rose	2/28



Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Men's NetWork Present Israel 2012 Tour

Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Men's NetWork are presenting a tour to Israel November 3-14, 2012 with tour guides Rev. Greg Seltz, the Speaker of The Lutheran Hour; Rev. Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour; and Bruce Wurdeman, Executive Director for LHM. For detailed information on: **Israel 2012**

Tour: A Journey of a Lifetime, go to www.lhm.org/israeltour.

Special Note: Be sure to use the registration code MNW when you register (yourself any anyone traveling with you) to identify that you are connected with the Men's NetWork.

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Profiles Beyond the Spotlight Series

Profiles Beyond the Spotlight Bible Studies are available to watch, download, or purchase at: www.lhmmen.com

- Ned Jarrett Never Rode Alone (Profiles Beyond the Spotlight Series)

In this single-session **Men's NetWork** Bible study, veteran NASCAR driver Ned Jarrett talks about taking risks, making sacrifices and attaining greatness—all with the help of God. He shares how family support and prayer were essential ingredients in the successes he enjoyed in his career

- Colt McCoy: A Father, A Son, and Football (Profiles Beyond the Spotlight Series)

This two-part Men's NetWork Bible study is the second in the Profiles: Beyond the Spotlight with Chris Schneider series. In this study Colt McCoy, Cleveland Browns' quarterback, shares, along with his father, Brad, what they've learned from football, winning, losing and how the endgame is always their relationship with Jesus.

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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Phone: 716-633-6752
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Address Service Requested

	Time	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26
Greeters	8:30	Peggy Dougan	Linda Rowe	Diane Michael	Allan & Arlene Riemer
	11:00	Marg Albert Nick Stanford	Nicki Tober Brian Brennan	Betty Ann Schmitt Becca Haist	Bud & Sue Foster Miranda DiGiacomo
Lector	8:30	Peggy Dougan	Dee Grzyb		Fern Suckow
	11:00	Soul Celebration	Sue Bethin	Soul Celebration	Nancy Horn
Comm. Asst.	8:30	Don Eggert		Barb Huestis	
	11:00		Ed Loeffler		Karen DiPaolo
Worship Asst.	8:30	Allan Riemer	Marg Albert	Craig Maconaghy	Karen Baglio
	11:00	Soul Celebration	Dave Shotwell	Soul Celebration	Gene Benson
Elder	5:00	Karen Baglio		Wally Grzyb	
	8:30	Allan Riemer		Craig Maconaghy	
	11:00		Dave Shotwell		Gene Benson
Acolyte	8:30				
	11:00				Sabrina Boyle
Trustee		Nancy Errett	Linda Rowe	Ken Knoll	Pam Maconaghy
Counter		Dave Schwab & Ed Hertel	Don Eggert & Nicki Tober	Chuck Walters & Rich Taylor	Phil Horn & Sherry Horn
Altar Care		Fred & Betty Ann Schmitt			