



The Net

"A newsletter Networking St. Luke's Episcopal Church"

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Mark Your Calendar

- January 6**
 - ✉ EpiscoPALS Epiphany Celebration
- January 10**
 - ✉ Bishop Scarfe's Visit
- January 17**
 - ✉ Canterbury Forum
- January 18**
 - ✉ Office Closed
- January 19**
 - ✉ Vestry
- January 21**
 - ✉ Healing Service
- January 24**
 - ✉ Epiphany Potluck
- February 7**
 - ✉ Annual Meeting

Office Hours
Mon. -Thur.
8:30-1:30
Peg's Phone
984-6131(H)
290-4503(C)

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2010

January

A newsletter Networking St. Luke's
Episcopal Church



Noteworthy Parish News & Updates

By Sue Savereide, Senior Warden

BISHOP'S VISIT ON JANUARY 10 AT 2 PM

Bishop Alan Scarfe will be with us on Sunday, January 10th for a 2 p.m. service of Holy Eucharist as well as Confirmation, Reception, and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. At a festive gathering afterwards in Will Hall, we will honor confirmands Jessie Hoffman and Kathryn Wolff as well as any adults presented for Confirmation or Reception. *Please see*

Deacon Liane Nichols' article elsewhere in the NET about Confirmation, Reception, and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. The time after the service will be an opportunity too for the Bishop to visit with parish members. I trust that a good turnout for this service will be a visible sign to the Bishop that St. Luke's is alive and well during this time of transition for us. *Note that we will have one service only on January 10th. There will be no morning service. We will set up a dessert buffet for the reception in Will Hall and invite parish members to bring cookies, bars, etc. for the occasion.*

2010 PLEDGES

So far 69 pledges totaling \$181,452 have been received. We will begin working on the 2010 budget after the first of the year. **If you have not yet pledged but intend to do so, please advise Peg Torrin, our administrative assistant, soon (277-8520 or st.lukes@cfu.net).**

PARISH SUPPORT OF MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Back in May 2008, the Vestry challenged the parish to raise \$10,000 within a year's time to fund local and national church efforts related to poverty, hunger, education, health, and the environment. St. Luke's members not only met the challenge but did so within months. Many of our efforts involved providing help to those affected by the tornado and floods of 2008, and so most of our funds were spent early. However, \$933.084 remained in the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund, and \$1,362.62 remained in the Millennium Development Goals Fund.

At its December meeting, the Vestry voted to:

Contribute \$933.04 to the Shady Rest Project in North Cedar. This project has had significant support not only from the national church (Episcopal Relief & Development) but also from the Diocese of Iowa (Diocesan Disaster Relief) and St. Luke's.

Contribute \$1,000 from the MDG Fund to local and international organizations by donating \$250 to the Cedar Valley Food Bank, \$250 to the St. Francis Catholic Worker House, \$250 to the Sudan Sunrise School Project (www.surisesudan.org), and \$250 to Hope and Relief International for their feeding program in Nicaragua.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF

Staff members Sharon Anway, Janet Sanders, and Peg Torrin have worked the past 12 months at a 5 per cent pay cut. They have done so without complaint but rather with renewed commitment to the parish. In a gesture of thanks, the Vestry voted to give each a Christmas gift of \$100.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Save the date! **The annual meeting will follow the 9:15 worship service on February 7th.**

Antic Disposition

Valdon Johnson

Substance of the Faith: the American Church
Part XXVII - His Righteous Sentence – II

Last month we met Dwight L. Moody, a talented shoe salesman whose Christian zeal caused him to bring anyone he could find to his church and finally to establish his own non-denominational independent congregation in Chicago. In Britain, he discovered his preaching ability, recruited a song-leader (David Sankey) and swept through England in 1873-1875, speaking to between three and four million in his sermons.

Then it was time for him to return to America. The Rink, a 5,000 seat auditorium in Brooklyn, provided a popular venue for his revivals -- so popular that the railroad company laid down supplementary trolley tracks to accommodate the faithful. John Wanamaker provided funds to convert a Pennsylvania railroad freight warehouse in Philadelphia into a place for the Moody -- Sankey revivals. From the eastern U.S., the renowned revivalists traveled to the Pacific coast in a series of campaigns. One writer noted, "With listeners in the millions, converts in the thousands, their hymns on every lip, their names a household word, Moody and Sankey rejuvenated the revival." Dwight L. Moody, using big business methods and money, "reconciled the city and old-time religion to each other." An historian of the great American fundamentalists wrote "Moody made clear what he had known all along: the American-born, middle-class urbanite was still a villager under the skin."

His sermons, simple, straight-forward, and benign, seemed to combine "American optimism and evangelical Arminianism," maintaining the possibility of salvation for anyone. One had only to ask to gain everlasting life, he said. He held his Bible aloft as a beacon and shouted out "Come forward and t-a-k-e, take!" Those who converted were gathered into meeting rooms with Mr. Moody's assistants and urged to join a church -- any church.

Moody optimistically believed that every person's personal conversion would provide a boundless source of solutions for the social problems and personal problems the person faced. There was little solace for the person who pondered the deep moral and social quandaries of the time, however. An individual redeemed was an instrument for public morality. And that was -- apparently to Mr. Moody -- to be reassurance enough.

Moody and other revivalists gave impetus to the growing tendency of Protestant Christianity toward sentimentalism. Through song and poem, through picture and illustration, the revivalists heaped melodramatic emotionalism on their audience, weeping at the thought of "the old rugged cross," and invoking an immanent God "in the garden." Biblical painting by Johann M .F. H. Hofmann became popular, and many a youngster cherished a collection bible story cards with appropriate paintings of the subjects. The revival messages did seem to have an anti--intellectual tone. Moody said that the professors of the "new theology" went "in a balloon whizzing up over the heads of the people." In just a few sentences, Moody aptly summed up his view of his preaching mission: "I look on this world as a wrecked vessel. God has given me a life-boat and said to me, 'Moody, save all you can.'" In 1899 Mr. Moody died and was buried far from the cities he had stirred by his revivals. His friends took him back to his native Northfield, Massachusetts, a city --in Moody's words -- "just about as near paradise as we can get on earth."

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St. Luke's • **Adult Forum sin January**

Sunday, January 3 No Forum. An information session on confirmation and reception into the Episcopal Church will be held in another location at this time.

Sunday, January 10 Bishop Scarfe's Visit (No Forum)
 Bishop Alan Scarfe will preside at Eucharist at 2 p.m. This will be the only service at St. Luke's this Sunday. Following worship, a discussion session with the Bishop will be held in Will Hall.

Sunday, January 17 Report from the Search Committee
 The St. Luke's rector search committee will provide an update on the search process.

Sunday, January 24 Epiphany Potluck (No Forum)
 A delicious annual St. Luke's event! Members are encouraged to bring favorite dishes from culinary traditions throughout the world (including Iowa). Remember, whether or not you bring food, the Epiphany Potluck welcomes *you*.

Sunday, January 31 Mission to Nicaragua
 For several years, St. Luke's members have been filling shoeboxes with school supplies, clothing and toys for children in Nicaragua. With the help of members and volunteers, Rotary International delivers the boxes. Ken and Patty Cutts and Dave Buck participated in the trip to Nicaragua last fall. They will tell us about their experiences and the people they met there.

Thank You

Thanks to your continued generosity, 125 pounds of food were collected for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. In addition to the food, The December Compassionate Collection designated for the Food Bank totaled \$361.50. A big thanks to Kel Schuchart for delivering the food.



THANK YOU

A big thank you to all who gave donations towards the beautiful poinsettias and great new Christmas decorations. New wreaths and candles for the church windows and decorations for the sanctuary trees were purchased. God bless all of you who gave donations plus all of you who gave of your time and talent greening the church.

Please watch for information in upcoming bulletins regarding taking down the greenery. Date and time to be determined. Your help would be very much appreciated.

Trish Norton
 Altar Guild Chairperson



Don't forget the Rummage Sale in the Spring.

No exact date has been set, but we are probably looking at sometime in April. As you clean your closets the beginning of this year, now is the time to set aside those items you have not used for at least three years and most likely won't use. The Committee

The Church Office will be closed for Martin Luther King Day, Monday January 18.



The Feast Of the Epiphany Wednesday, January 6

The Season of Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the world. It is known as the season of light and lasts until Lent. This season originally commemorated Jesus' baptism and his changing water into wine at Cana. Later, the visit of the Three Kings, or Magi, was added.

Matthew's Gospel (2:1-12) tells of the visit of the Three Kings to the Christ Child, the amazing baby coming to the Hebrew people AND to all people. We most likely envision three kings riding camels and dressed in elegant robes with fancy crowns. The wise ones probably represent three different cultures or races. Whoever they were, they were clever enough to avoid getting trapped in the web of a threatened king, bring their intriguing gifts to the child, and go home—by a different way.

EpiscoPALS Epiphany Celebration

As EpiscoPALS resumes at 6 o'clock on Wednesday, January 6th after the Christmas holiday, **we will celebrate The Feast of the Epiphany** with a short service in the sanctuary when children will add the Three Kings and their camels to our beautiful crèche.

We will share a meal together that will include a King's Cake (cupcakes), one of the Epiphany traditions. And finally we will view a portion of *The Nativity Story*, a really good film that includes the journey of the Three Kings to find The King of Kings.

All are welcome!

Our "St. Luke Choral Liturgy" Includes Several Essential Elements:

- ? Liturgical material from sources around the world
- ? Congregational songs from a variety of historical and cultural traditions
- ? Silence and spiritual reflection as an integral part of the worship experience
- ? Inclusive, accessible language

At 9:15 a.m. services during Epiphany, St. Luke's celebrates the **St. Luke Choral Liturgy**. This liturgy is specific to our local congregation and was created in 2001 through the support of a Diocese of Iowa grant. The liturgy includes excerpts from other Episcopal and Anglican liturgies, such as the New Zealand and South African prayer books and the supplemental liturgical text *Enriching Our Worship*. Our composer-in-residence, Sharon Anway, composed service music for the liturgy, wrote various prayers included in the liturgy, and compiled and formatted the trial edition. With feedback and assistance from the congregation and worship committee, the trial liturgy was revised into its present form.

Epiphany Celebration/"Food From Around the World"

Also in honor of the first Sunday after Epiphany, we will celebrate diversity with an **Epiphany Celebration/"Food From Around the World"** all-parish potluck on Sunday, January 24th after the Adult Forum. Please bring a favorite ethnic food dish to share at the potluck. Feel free to write the name of your dish on a colorful card, along with a short description of the dish and what country or ethnicity it represents.

From the Deacon's Desk



Liane Nichols

The Bishop's Visit - a New Year's Resolution Opportunity

The beginning of a new year has traditionally been a time to resolve to change our behavior for the better in some way. So it is a fitting time for us to be having a visit from our Bishop because in the liturgy we will be renewing our baptismal vows and reminding ourselves how we are summoned daily to be Christ's representatives in the world.

Of course, the Bishop's presence allows for young people who have been considering it to offer themselves for confirmation. In addition Bishop Scarfe's visit offers the opportunity for those adults who come from another denomination, but who have been attending St. Luke's regularly, to decide if they want to formally become members of the Episcopal Church.

The two Sundays before the Bishop's visit on January 10th we will be holding sessions during Adult Forum time to offer instruction and answer inquiries about coming into the church as an adult. Baptism, of course, is the first step, and the Episcopal Church recognizes all baptisms made with water in the name of the Trinity. One may become a *baptized member* of the Episcopal Church by having their baptism date recorded in the St. Luke record book.

It is expected that all adult members will be *confirmed* or *received* at some point. Whether to be received or confirmed depends on the tradition one comes from and is spelled out in the Bishop's Customary, which states that the Bishop will *receive* adults from a Church with the historical episcopate, or from a Church in full communion with us like the ELCA. Otherwise, at this time he will *confirm* all others.

The service for confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation is essentially the same with wording appropriately inserted for the needs of the moment. The service is found on page 413 of The BCP.

All parishioners are encouraged to come to the sessions on December 27th and January 3rd in preparation for the Bishop's visit. His presence always offers us an inspiring service and one that calls us to remember the promises we've made in our baptismal covenant.

What better way to start out the New Year than by reaffirming our commitment to God and the world beyond ourselves!

LETTER to the NET !!!

Letter to the Net:

The Christmas pageant on December 20th, was masterfully created, skillfully presented, and wonderfully entertaining to all of us who were present. To those who organized and directed the performance, please accept our grateful appreciation for all the hard work that goes into such an endeavor. To all the children and musicians who were part of this wonderful and moving tradition at St. Luke's, a big round of applause for a job well done !!

Our Christmas would not be complete without the St. Luke's Pageant.

Parke and Marlene Behn Dave and Ruth Buck Ken and Patty Cutts

JANUARY 2010 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 3 9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer: Rite II The Reverend Liane Nichols Kevin Sanders preaching
January 10 2:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows Bishop Alan Scarfe
January 17 9:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist The Reverend Maureen Doherty
January 24 9:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist The Reverend Maureen Doherty
January 31 9:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist The Reverend Sean Burke

Canterbury Forum

Sunday, January 17th

Creating the Bible: The Word of God and the Work of Man

Bob Dize, Department of History, UNI

In most people's mind today, the Bible is synonymous with Judaism and Christianity, and is shrouded in an almost divine aura. But too often the depth of people's devotion to the Bible is matched only by their ignorance of how the Bible they hold before them came to be. In this talk, UNI ancient history professor and Canterbury Forum founder and moderator **Dr. Bob Dize** takes us through how the all-too-human choices made by textual scholars, translators, and publishers have created the "Word of God" revered by so many people today.

Bob's talk is the prelude to a three-talk series on how human decisions determined the contents, or canons, of the Old and New Testaments. Those talks will be given by Profs **Brian Jones**, **Ken Atkinson**, and **Charlotte Wells** in Waterloo First Methodist's **Faith Explorations** series. For details, visit the St. Luke's new website to get link to the Canterbury Forum site.

The Net

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The Net is published
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are welcome and
encouraged.

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Holy Eucharist at St. Luke's Church

9:00 Eucharist

Nursery Care is available Sundays during the service.

The Rev. Liane C. Nichols, Deacon

Sue Savereide, Sr. Warden

Sue Smith, Jr. Warden

Dave Buck, Vestry Secretary/Clerk

Jon Taiber, Parish Treasurer

Peg Torrin, Administrative Assistant

Sharon Anway, Music Director & Composer-in-Residence

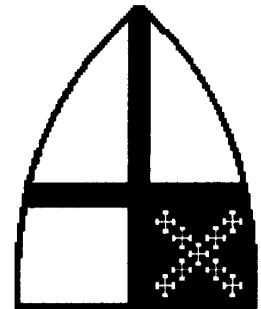
Janet Sanders, Organist

Vestry Members

Steve Forsythe Trish Norton David O'Shields

Ken Cutts Parke Behn Ann Eastman

Nancy Henderson Carolyn Wolff Marnell Lyle



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