

NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW YORK CITY

BECOMING MORE INTIMATE WITH JESUS

These are days which are trying men's souls. Confusion and uncertainty surround us. Our Christian faith is being put to a tremendous test. More than ever do we need inner strength to wage life's battle. That inner strength can and will come from Christ. But in order to receive it we must become more intimate with Him. Our daily lives must be lived in His presence. Through constant prayer and regular attendance at divine services and the Lord's Supper, we must learn to submit ourselves to God's ways for us. We must learn the power of His presence in our lives.

The sermons announced in the enclosed folder have as their general theme, "Becoming more intimate with Jesus". They are all practical in nature and are so planned as to help us face our daily problems.

Face life with Christ and begin each week in His Name by attending the services of your Church.

HATS OFF TO THE PAST

For 96 years God has singularly blessed St. Luke's. As occasion arose the Lord always gave our church consecrated men and women who faithfully carried forward the banner of Christ and established St. Luke's as an institution of protestantism in the Times Square area. Congregations have come and gone on the west side of mid-town New York. But St. Luke's alone has, by the grace of God, been able to weather the storms and remain a strong bulwark of Christ in a neighborhood which is no longer residential. With God's help we have survived a difficult period of transition. To all those in the past who have built our Church and made it what it is today go our deepest regards. We take our hats off to the generations who have preceded us and revere them for making our Church one of the most prominent Lutheran Churches in New York City and the most prominent Protestant Church in the Times Square area. Our hats off to the past; but now our

COATS OFF TO THE FUTURE

We cannot linger too long or too fondly over memories of the past. The Lord has given us the St. Luke's of today, not to read the history of yesterday, but to write the history of tomorrow. That means we must take off our coats and apply ourselves to the opportunities which lie before us. That will mean praying and planning and working on the part of all of us. A Church is only as strong as its individual members. In order that we may hand over to those that follow us an even stronger St. Luke's than we have received let us adopt the following:

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

On Sunday, October 8th, we observe the founding of our Church with an Anniversary Communion. In order to link the past with the present, and receive the inspiration and enthusiasm of those who have preceded us, we use for this service the communion vessels which have been in possession of the Church since Civil War days. We call upon all members of the Church to receive the Lord's Supper on Sunday, which has also been designated as Universal Communion Sunday. Thus, our Anniversary Communion should have a dual significance to us. It should unite us in faith with all fellow Christians; and it should give each of us an opportunity to consecrate ourselves anew to the tasks which lie ahead.

The second part of our Anniversary program is the personal resolution to attend all services of the Church during the month of October. The sermon schedule calls for inspirational addresses on the real work of the Church and Christ's need of all Christians to dedicate themselves to the task of making this world a better place in which to live. Would you serve Christ with the same love that prompted Him to suffer Calvary for you, then plan to attend all services during the month of October.

The third part of our Anniversary program is planned for the month of November when we hope to introduce the national Lutheran program of evangelism. The Lutheran Church in America is embarking on a tremendous missionary program and has adopted as its slogan EACH ONE, REACH ONE. During the weeks to come start praying for some individual who is without Christ or without a church home; and then during the month of November bring that person to St. Luke's, to his Savior, Jesus Christ. There is an indescribable joy in bringing a soul to Christ which comes only through personal experience.

With this three-fold program we will be BUILDING FOR TOMORROW and making St. Luke's a real spiritual powerhouse. But St. Luke's, CHRIST NEEDS YOU, to carry out this program.

ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

During the summer months a sum of over \$2,500.00 was spent in making necessary repairs to your Church. Much painting was done; repairs to our heating and lighting system had to be made. There still remain such larger items as the repair of our church roof, which alone will cost over three thousand dollars. Those are items above and beyond our current expense budget.

This year our Anniversary Collection, which is really a thank offering to God for His blessings of the past, will be devoted to these special repair items. Use the enclosed envelope and make your Anniversary Offering commensurate of God's blessings to you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We do not hear too much of the Junior Congregation of St. Luke's. Yet each Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock a group of twelve consecrated workers meet with the children of the Church to instruct them in the fundamental teachings of their Savior. At present 108 are enrolled in the Sunday School. A week ago all attendance records for the past 16 years were broken with 86 present.

We have set as our goal the figure of 100 in attendance by November 1st. You can help the children reach this goal by telling others of our Sunday School. Our classes are so arranged that we can take care of anyone above the age of four years. In conjunction with the Sunday School, Pastor Neibacher conducts a Bible Class for all who have been confirmed. You are cordially invited to join this group some Sunday morning. Right now the Gospel of St. Mark is being studied.

CALLING ALL MEN

For some time it has been felt that the men of St. Luke's are not afforded the same opportunity to meet in Christian fellowship as are the ladies. For the ladies we have the Ladies' Aid Society and the Dorcas Guild. The men, however, have no organization in which they can become better acquainted, become more intimate with the larger program of the Church, or meet in fellowship.

At a recent meeting of the Church Council it was, therefore resolved to call a meeting of all the men in the congregation to discuss the possibility of forming a Men's Club. All male members of the congregation are cordially invited and urged to attend such a meeting on Monday, October 7th, at 8 P. M.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

On the second Wednesday of each month at 2 P.M. the Ladies' Aid Society meets. This is one of the oldest organizations in the Church. Just recently the society joined the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, whose present program is helping the war orphans of Europe and Asia and also the Deaf Mute

Mission in Brooklyn. Learn more of these noteworthy projects by joining the Ladies on Wednesday, October 9th, at 2 P.M.

THE DORCAS GUILD

The Dorcas Guild has undertaken the very noble task of sewing for the distressed in the war-torn areas of the world. This is really putting Christianity to work in a day of universal suffering. However, in order to execute such a program the Dorcas Guild needs help. It needs discarded, but still usable clothing which it can mend or make over. It needs women to sew. It needs names and addresses of people in war torn areas who are in need of help. Do what you can, in whatever manner you are able, to help the Dorcas Guild in this work of Christian love.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S GUILD

Each Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 11 o'clock the young people of the Church meet for a program of Christian fellowship. On Sunday evenings at 8 o'clock a fellowship supper is served. In conjunction with the devotional program Pastor Neibacher is discussing a group of topics on Christian Fundamentals. All young people of the church are cordially invited and urged to attend.

THE CHOIR

Last Sunday our choir sang for the first time of the Fall Season. Those of us who were present were very happy to have the Choir back again. It added much to the inspiration and devotion of the service.

For the months to come Miss Holmer, our Organist and Choir Director, has great plans for the choir. However, in order to execute those plans, we need more volunteers. Rehearsals are scheduled for each Thursday at 7:30 P.M. Will you not seriously consider serving your Savior in the ministry of music at St. Luke's? You need not have a trained voice; you need merely the willingness to serve and learn. Please, talk to Miss Holmer after one of our services or come on Thursday at 7:30 P.M.