

# NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER

*St. Luke's Lutheran Church*

*New York, New York*

1947 - 1948

Once more another year of church work has started in a world which is confused and disturbed by many tensions and much suffering. The months which lie ahead give every indication of being critical ones, not only in the history of world affairs, but also in the history of our Church. Never before has such a challenge been extended to the Church of Christ as in these days. More and more men are realizing that this world's ills can be solved only by Christ and the message of His Cross. This places a tremendous responsibility on the Church and its individual members.

The sermons which have been planned for the Fall Season have as their general theme "Revitalizing The Church". In this series we hope to examine some of the cardinal teachings of our religion and re-evaluate our individual responsibilities to Christ and our Church. A Church is only as strong as her individual members. If we want Saint Luke's to be strong spiritually and exert an influence on the life of our fellow man, then we, as individuals, must live close to Christ and His way of life. We all need the message of our Church and our Church needs us. Our Church needs our talents, our time, our energy and our gifts; and only as we give of ourselves can Saint Luke's give to others.

As we begin another season of service to Christ and humanity, we pray that the Lord will use us all in the work of His Kingdom and that He will bless our every endeavor.

## ANNIVERSARY COMMUNION

For 97 years the Lord has richly blessed and prospered Saint Luke's. He has brought us from a very humble beginning to the prominent place in New York Lutheranism that we now occupy. Each year on the first Sunday of October we observe our anniversary with a special service of Holy Communion. At that time we not only thank God for all blessings of the past, but more important still we dedicate ourselves to the tasks of the future. This year shall be no exception.

Our Anniversary Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, October 5th, and we urge our entire membership to be present on that Sunday. Only as we all draw closer to Christ in the Sacrament can we properly dedicate ourselves to the tasks of the future. Make every effort to join your fellow members at the Lord's Table on Sunday, October 5th.

## ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION

During the summer months extensive repairs were made on our church plant. Much work, which was postponed during the war, simply had to be done this year. A new roof was placed on the church; extensive repairs were made to the organ; and an oil burner for our heating system was installed. All this was done in addition to the usual repairs such as painting and the like, which we have to do each year. The above items have meant an additional expense of \$10,000 above our regular current expenses.

At the last meeting of the Church Council a resolution was passed, designating our Anniversary Thank Offering for these special repairs. Our budget cannot even begin to absorb the entire \$10,000. We, therefore, appeal to you to prayerfully consider your Anniversary Gift. Make it proportionate to God's gifts to you. Make it a real THANK OFFERING.

## ARE YOU STILL ON VACATION?

For most people vacation time is over. They are again back to their regular daily routines. Have you placed your Church back on your regular weekly schedule? How about the various activities of your Church? Are you again finding yourself active in one of the organizations or activities of the Church - the place where you can best serve your Savior? How about your weekly offering envelopes? Have you caught up with the Sundays you missed while you were away? Vacation time is over and your Church calls you back to a busy season of work.

## NEW STUDENT ASSISTANT

Since the first of September, Mr. Harold Haas, a third year student of Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, has been with us, assisting in the work of Saint Luke's. We are happy to have Mr. Haas with us and we pray that the coming year will bring blessings both to him and the cause of Christ.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The religious education of children is one of deep concern to every Christian congregation because on the training of our youth today depends the Church of tomorrow. Saint Luke's has always been vitally interested in her young and has made use of every opportunity to develop the spiritual life of her children.

Sunday School sessions for all age groups, beginning at 3 years, are held each week at 9:30 A.M. On Thursday afternoons, beginning October 9th, the public schools of New York will again release all children at 2 P.M. for an hour of religious instruction in their respective churches. Saint Luke's also has a released time school for all children above the second grade.

In addition when boys and girls reach the age of 12 or enter the seventh grade at school, they begin a two year training course, preparatory to Confirmation and church membership. These sessions are held on Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

Should you know of children who are without a Church Home, please tell them of our religious program and give their names and addresses to the Pastor.

## THE CHOIR

Once more the choir is taking an active part in our regular morning services. Rehearsals are held each Thursday evening at 8 P.M. For the coming season a very ambitious program has been planned and an urgent appeal is made for more volunteers. Please consider seriously serving your Savior in the Ministry of Music at Saint Luke's. We have a choir of which we can rightfully be proud and which deserves our enthusiastic support. In addition to singing at all our regular services, the following program is planned for the Fall Season:

October 26th - Handel Program of Organ Music  
November 16th - Maunder's "Song of Thanksgiving"  
November 30th - The Messiah  
December 21st - Candle-Light Service

Please, reserve these dates now.

## NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, November 2nd, a group of people will be received into Church membership. Do you know of anyone who is without a Church Home? Invite them to join with us. Give their names and addresses to the Pastor.

## TODDLERS

Parents! Do not stay away from Church because you have small children. Each Sunday morning during the service a young lady is in charge of a "toddlers' group". Parents are invited to leave their children on the third floor of the Parish House with the assurance that they shall be cared for properly.

### GIRL SCOUT TROOP

A little over a year ago a Boy Scout Troop was organized and it met with such fine response that we now plan to organize a Girl Scout Troop. All girls between the ages of 10 and 14 inclusive are invited to meet at the Church with their parents on Wednesday, October 15th, at 7:30 P.M. At that time we plan to officially introduce a program of Scouting for our girls.

### THE MEN'S CLUB

In the family of organizations at Saint Luke's the Men's Club is the youngest. Organized only last Spring, we have every indication of a successful season of activities in the months which lie ahead. All male members are cordially invited to join their fellow members. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 20th, at 8 P.M. At that time the Rev. T. Thormahlen, Executive Secretary of Bethlehem Lutheran Children's Home, will discuss the problem of Juvenile Delinquency. Plan now to attend. Invite your friends to attend with you.

### OUR CENTENNIAL

The Centennial Committee has not been idle during the summer months. It has been organizing various committees and formulating plans for a far reaching program which it plans to introduce this Fall. We shall hear much from this committee in the very near future.

### REFORMATION RALLY

On Sunday, November 3rd, at 3.30 P.M., The Lutheran Society will conduct a Reformation Rally at the Waldorf-Astoria. Those who attended the rally last year will remember it as one of the outstanding Lutheran gatherings of recent years. Plan now to attend on November 3rd.

