

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
308 West 46th Street  
New York, New York  
Circle 6-3540

N E W S   L E T T E R

October  
1959

1959 - 1960

This Fall we begin the 110th year of service to Christ and our fellow man. By the Grace of God Saint Luke's has weathered many difficult storms and is now well in her second century of existence. Each generation, as it has appeared on the scene, has had its own peculiar problems, but with God's help each generation has been equal to its opportunities and responsibilities. And our generation, frightened though we may be at the moment, will also, with God's help be equal to today's problems.

The Fall of 1959 finds our particular community filled with tension, fear, bitterness and unrest because of the two brutal slayings which took place this summer in a playground on 46th Street. The peculiar problems arising from this tragedy, however, are not such that we as Christians are unequal to them. The problems of the hour call, not for a defeatist attitude, but for more ardent prayer and for a deeper spirituality on the part of each of us. Through constant prayer for our church and the entire staff, through daily meditation, through regular attendance at church services and frequent reception of the Lord's Supper, each of us must at this time rededicate himself to Christ and the work of His Church. In all that lies before us Christ will make up for our deficiencies if He sees that we are giving our best selves to Him.

REDISCOVERING POWER

Rediscovering power by deepening the spiritual life will be the underlying theme of the sermons listed in the enclosed sermon topic folder. Together we want to rediscover the significance of the Ten Commandments for today's living and thereby become better men and women of God. God needs powerful Christians in today's world; He needs Christians who will take Christ out into their daily lives and witness to His power. Never before have the opportunities for Christian witness been greater. Never before has the Gospel of Jesus Christ been more needed. Men have tried practically everything but Christ to solve their problems. Your responsibility and mine is to make Christ so attractive that men will now try Christ, who alone can help them. Invite some unchurched friend to share the series of sermons listed on the enclosed folder. The basis of a number of these sermons will be the Ten Commandments.

THE REV. HAROLD F. ROELLIG

On Sunday, September 20, 1959 Mr. Harold F. Roellig was ordained into the Holy Ministry and installed as Assistant Pastor of Saint Luke's. Mr. Roellig is a graduate of Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, and is at present an instructor at Columbia University where he at the same time is doing graduate work. Because of his heavy schedule at the university Pastor Roellig's activity in our midst

will be limited to teaching a Bible class in Sunday School, working with the young adult group in the church, and preaching perhaps once a month. We welcome Pastor Roellig to Saint Luke's and even though he will be with us only on a part time basis, we know the Lord will richly bless his every endeavor in our midst and that ours will be the stronger church for this association.

MR. DENNIS HILL

Right after Labor Day Mr. Dennis Hill, student of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, arrived at Saint Luke's. He has been assigned to us as our vicar for the current year. We are indeed happy to have Mr. Hill with us and look forward to his active participation in our program of Religious Education, in our youth activities and in our mission outreach to the community. May the Lord use him mightily and bless his every endeavor in Christ's kingdom here at the cross roads of the world is the prayer of all as we welcome him to our staff.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Already last Spring, months before our community was shocked into action by two brutal teenage murders, the Church Council after careful consideration resolved to strengthen and expand our program of youth activities. We felt that our outreach must be extended and that we must involve an ever increasing number of our children in a constructive, meaningful program of activities. Realizing that recreational facilities for boys and girls in the Times Square area of New York are extremely limited, we at Saint Luke's are determined to put our facilities to the best possible use.

To expedite the matter we have asked the Group Work Department of the Lutheran Social Services of Metropolitan New York to help us plan and supervise such a program. In order to do this they are using two trained workers, a man and a woman, to work with our boys and girls. The boys will meet on Tuesdays and the girls on Thursdays. Should interest and need indicate it, a third evening will be set aside. Through such a program of gym, handcrafts and the like we hope to do our bit in helping to solve the ever increasing juvenile delinquency problem. All boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 13 are cordially invited to participate.

ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

We know that you are interested in and vitally concerned about the juvenile delinquency in our city. Both as a citizen and as a Christian we know that you want to do something about it. To carry out our program at Saint Luke's, staff and supplies will cost us a minimum of \$1500. This item was not included in our budget, but your Church Council felt that you would not want us to close our eyes to the problem and say, "let George do it"; "let some other agency in the community do it." We as a church must act.

With this News Letter we are enclosing a special offering envelope. For a number of years now you have been accustomed to making a special birthday offering to your church. Because of the urgency facing us in this community we felt that this year you would want to extend yourself and make a special contribution to the youth fund of Saint Luke's. Your gift will determine largely how many boys and girls we can bring off the street and involve in our recreational program. Please, remember we need a minimum of \$1500 and we are completely dependent upon the generosity of our entire membership.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock and has a well integrated program of religious education. There are special classes for all age groups, beginning at 4 years and including two teenage and an Adult Bible Class. Should you know of any children who do not have a Church Home, invite them to attend our Sunday School. We particularly invite all adults to join our Adult Bible Class, which meets under the leadership of Miss Elsa Herrilers. Here is an excellent opportunity to become better acquainted with your Bible and to join the weekly discussions of some of the fundamentals of our Christian faith.

### CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS

Each Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 4:00 o'clock Pastor Neibacher and Mr. Hill have confirmation classes. The course of instruction covers a two year period. All boys and girls who will be 12 years old before January 1, 1960 should enroll. The first session will be held on October 6th.

### RELEASED TIME SCHOOL

Each Thursday afternoon our children are released by the public schools at 2:00 o'clock for an hour of religious instruction. The first session of our Released Time School, which will be conducted under the leadership of Mr. Dennis Hill, will be on October 8th. Special enrollment cards may be obtained from Miss Martha Eber.

### THEATRE IN THE CHURCH

This season our Theatre In The Church will present a series of religious dramas. The first play, "Journey to Jerusalem", is already in rehearsal and should have its first performance toward the end of October. When you receive your announcement of this, please, tell your friends of the program and invite them to attend with you. Through our Theatre In The Church we hope to reach an ever increasing number of individuals with the message of Christ.

### BRIEFS

Have you noticed that much painting has been done in our church plant during the summer months, when many other necessary repairs were also made? Be sure to take a look at the second floor lounge. The Ladies Aid Society had the furniture completely reupholstered, along with the furniture in the Pastor's study. We truly are grateful to the Ladies Aid Society.....

This past summer approximately 80 of the boys and girls of our Sunday School were sent away for longer or shorter periods of time through the Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund. Also during the summer our young adult group conducted a very effective Open House program each Thursday evening for the youth of the community.....

Church expenses were again high this summer due to the necessary rehabilitation of our church plant. Have you returned all of your summer church offering envelopes?.....

For a complete schedule of our weekly activities, please, consult the last page of the sermon topic folder. Monthly meetings of the various organizations and special events will be listed in the regular Sunday bulletins.