

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

March  
1960

LENT

Lent is what we make it; and we get out of Lent only what we put into it by way of love and devotion, faith and sincerity. For all too many Lent is but a short-lived, annual spiritual spurt which ends with Easter. But for others Lent means increased opportunity for deepening the spiritual life, for rediscovering the power of Christ, and for rededicating self to His Way of Life. Certainly Lent - with its special Mid-week Lenten Services, its strong emphasis on the suffering and death of Christ, and its increased opportunity for the reception of the Lord's Supper - is an opportunity for growing in faith which can put Christ on a full time basis in our individual lives.

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

On the enclosed sermon topic folder you will note that the subject of our Wednesday evening meditations is THE PASSION OF CHRIST. Not only will we emphasize Christ's suffering and death but we will also see how contemporary the Passion Personalities are. If we consider the various individuals who had a role in Christ's Passion, we readily see that the Passion of Christ could well have taken place in 1960 and that in reality we played the leading roles in Christ's suffering and death.

THE PERSON OF CHRIST

On Sunday mornings we shall consider THE PERSON OF CHRIST. Scripture has many revealing things to say about Jesus as an individual; and it is only as we begin to understand what kind of a person He really was that we can appreciate the role He played as Savior of the world. Knowing Jesus as a person will make Him more vital and His teachings more relevant for today's living.

MAKE A DATE

Make a date, therefore, to meet with Christ each Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and each Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. Let absolutely nothing, but personal illness, make you break that date. You could not possibly do yourself a greater spiritual favor than by exposing yourself - body, soul and mind - to the Christ of Calvary's Cross. He has a powerful message for today's living. As you make a date with Christ, also make a date with some unchurched friend or someone who is only loosely attached to the cause of Christ. Invite him to attend the worship services of Saint Luke's with you.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

As we during Lent step up our church activity, so we also ought to step up our personal devotional life. A quiet time ought to be set aside each day for Scripture reading, meditation and prayer in which we relate the Christ of Holy Writ with the everyday as we must face it. As part of our daily devotional life,

Let each of us make a daily offering to Christ using the enclosed Lenten Denial Folder. Perhaps your daily Lenten Offering ought to be more than the suggested ten cents, perhaps it should be less. This you must personally determine, but whatever your daily gift, make it representative of your blessings and your love for Christ.

#### HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be celebrated frequently during Lent. Consult the announced schedule in the sermon topic folder. But, please, note there is a change in the March schedule. Instead of the first Sunday, the second has been designated for the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The change has been made to give us an opportunity to hear the

#### FORT WAYNE CONCORDIA CHORUS

On Sunday, March 6th, we shall have a special musical treat in our morning worship service. The male chorus of the Fort Wayne, Indiana, CONCORDIA SENIOR COLLEGE will give concerts on March 5th at Adelphi College Gymnasium, Garden City, and on March 6th at Christ Episcopal Church, Bronxville. Both of these concerts begin at 8 o'clock. However, on Sunday morning in the 11 o'clock service 30 members of this male chorus will sing at Saint Luke's. Plan to attend this service to hear and welcome these young men, all of whom are studying for the Lutheran ministry. A special free will offering will be taken at the door in order to help defray expenses of the concert tour.

#### CONCORDIA SEMINARY CHORUS

On Friday evening, March 18th, at 8 o'clock the male chorus of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, will give a concert at Carnegie Hall. Mr. Dennis Hill, our vicar and student of the Springfield Seminary, has reserved tickets, which range in price from \$1.50 to \$2.50. Reservations may be made after any one of our regular services at the desk in the narthex of the church.

#### NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational meeting, which was held on February 1st, was by far one of the best attended and most inspiring that we have had in recent years. Approximately 150 people attended to hear the various reports made by the officers and representatives of our various organizations. It cost over \$46,000.00 to operate Saint Luke's during 1959.....We closed the year with a deficit of \$149.24. Certainly the Lord was good to us.....In the recent Stewardship of Life program more than 100 of our members increased their contribution for 1960. Were you among them? It still is not too late.....The Sunday School served approximately 225 individuals this past year. At present our enrollment stands at about 185, the largest it has been in several decades.....The Ladies' Aid Society, meeting for luncheon on the second Wednesday of each month, has an active membership of 30 women and disbursed about \$2,500.00 during the year, using less than 10% for their own purposes.....The Dorcas Guild has a membership of about 45 and meets on the first Tuesday of each month.....The Young Adult Group, which has a supper meeting with planned program each Sunday evening, states very well that participation in its activities "demands a high commitment to Christ, which makes it possible for others to come and hear and see God's Word in action.".....The Teen-agers (Walther League) have an active membership of approximately 25 and meet on Sunday mornings for Bible Study and on Friday evenings for recreation and fellowship.

1960

The annual reports for 1960 are now in the stages of formulation. What there will be included in them regarding spiritual growth and progress for Christ is being determined right now. Are we letting others write the record for us or are we making a definite contribution to the life of Saint Luke's? This is a rather personal question, but one which each of us must answer for himself.

BENEATH THE CROSS

Lent has always been a period for rededication to Christ, to His Way of Life and to the work of His church. Saint Luke's must face many problems in a rapidly changing community. Many new opportunities are confronting the church and many new demands are being made upon it in today's world. In order to be equal to these new opportunities and increased demands each of us must sacrifice self on the Altar of the Cross and rededicate ourselves to the Savior. Use this Lenten Season, with all of its special services, as an opportunity for increased spiritual activity on your part. Meet often with your fellow members BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS. There is power and direction for daily living in the message of the Cross.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Narrative Communion Service

On Pentecost Sunday, May 17th, at 11:00 A.M. Holy Communion will be celebrated. We shall follow the Communion Service on Page 15 of our hymnals as we have done for years. However, interspersed with the liturgy will be a narrative explaining the various segments of the service, which too often are repeated as mere form with little thought or significance. The purpose of the Narrative Communion Service is to make our worship experience more meaningful for everyday life.

Art-Handicraft-Hobby Show

The Coffee Hour this Sunday will take on the form of an Art Show, which is being sponsored by the Dorcas Guild. Members and friends of Saint Luke's are asked to put on display and share with others some piece of art they have created. It can be a painting, a piece of hand craft, some coin or stamp collection, or anything else which happens to be your hobby. Mrs. Virginia Callahan will be at the church on Saturday from 2 to 4 P.M. and on Sunday morning from 10 A.M. to receive and assist you in arranging your display. Share with your fellow-members any special skill or interest that the Lord has given you.

Social Problems and the Church

On Monday, May 18th, at 7 P.M. the 4th and final of the Spring series of discussions on some of the social problems of our time will be held. The Rev. Paul Qualben, who is a Lutheran Clergyman and a Practicing Psychiatrist, will speak on the subject of Drugs and Alcoholism. These are somewhat related problems, drugs being the problem of many young people and alcohol of many older people. These Monday Evening Forums have been extremely informative. In these days of tension and confusion we all need to be better informed on some of the problems facing our society. We need a sharpened Christian consciousness. Let us take advantage of the final forum this coming Monday evening. Dr. Qualben is an outstanding speaker and in great demand as such. We are very fortunate at Saint Luke's to have him speak to us. Let us take advantage of the final forum this coming Monday evening.