

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
308 West 46th Street
New York, New York

N E W S L E T T E R

July 1, 1961

VACATION TIME

Vacation time is always a welcome one because it means relaxation from the pressures which are so much with us. Christ Himself felt the need of breaking the tensions of the ordinary work-a-day life and from time to time declared to the disciples, "Come along to some quiet place by yourselves and rest for a little while."

However, the rest of vacations should never be a lazy or an inactive rest. It should include spiritual activity, in which we draw closer to God, meditate upon His Holy Word and derive from Him the power and the strength we need to face life's daily demands. Use, therefore, the weeks which lie ahead as a time to re-create body and soul and mind. Wherever your vacation may find you, take time out on Sunday morning, search out a church and worship your Lord.

May God accompany you wherever you go and may He keep His loving and protecting Hand over you.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

For the convenience of our members and the many vacationists visiting New York during the summer months, two services will be conducted each Sunday morning during July and August. In addition to the regular 11 o'clock service there will be a 9 o'clock service. This should enable people to attend church and still get an early start for the beach or the country. Plan your Sundays during the summer months so as to include attendance at one of our worship services.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at both services on July 2nd and August 6th.

SUMMER BIBLE CLASS

Beginning Tuesday, July 11th, and continuing for six successive Tuesday evenings, Mr. John O'Connor, our vicar, will conduct a series of Bible studies on the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Romans. This program of study is planned at the request of our regular Sunday morning Adult Bible Class which meets each Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Plan to attend this summer series of Bible studies. It will be an enriching experience for you. The group will meet from 7 to 8 o'clock each Tuesday evening. Ample opportunity for discussion will be given.

SUMMER CHAPEL

A complete renovation of our Sunday School rooms is taking place at this time and a summer chapel is being constructed in our lower auditorium.

What started out to be a rather modest program of improving the facilities of our Sunday School rooms, by installing an acoustical ceiling and more adequate lighting, has turned out to be the most ambitious program Saint Luke's has undertaken since the erection of the 46th Street plant.

Using the present platform as a basis, a chancel will be erected to create a worshipful atmosphere and an air conditioning system will be installed to make our summer services more comfortable for all those who worship with us. In addition, a number of minor changes will be made to enhance the beauty and the functional purposes of our lower auditorium, which henceforth will be known as Saint Luke's Chapel. The renovation program is expected to be completed before the end of July. We shall send you an announcement of the dedication. The pastor will return from his vacation to conduct the dedicatory service.

PASTOR'S CALL

During the latter part of May Pastor Neibacher received a Call to become pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Groton, Connecticut. After very careful and prayerful consideration, and upon consultation with various officers and members of the church, the pastor returned the Call, stating in part to Faith Church, "I have reached the conclusion that my Call from God is still here in the inner city." As with all Calls that a pastor receives, this was not an easy decision but one, which carries with it a renewed dedication to the work of Saint Luke's.

ELDER EMERITUS

Upon the completion of 50 years of service on the Church Council, Mr. John W. Lengemann was made, at a special meeting of the Voters in April, Elder Emeritus. This is a new office at Saint Luke's and carries with it all the love and honor we can show those veterans who have given many years of unselfish service to the Lord at Saint Luke's.

At the June meeting of the Church Council Mr. Herman Von Hinken, who is now in his 95th year and has served on the Church Council for 44 years, was also made Elder Emeritus of Saint Luke's.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

In order to fill the unexpired term of Mr. John Lengeman on the Board of Elders, the Church Council, at its May meeting, appointed Dr. Louis P. Lochner, who for the past several years has been serving as a deacon.

To fill the vacancy on the Board of Deacons, Mr. Donald Krenz, a young lawyer and president of the Senior Young Peoples' Guild, was appointed to the Church Council.

We wish these men the Lord's richest blessings in their new positions.

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

The Senior Young Peoples' Guild is undertaking a rather ambitious summer program for the children of the community. Each Tuesday and Thursday evening, beginning with July 6th and continuing on to August 31st, an open house program will be conducted from 7 to 9 o'clock P.M. for children between the ages of 6 and 15 years. The program will consist primarily of arts and crafts. Should you know of any boys and girls in the community, who will be in the city during the above mentioned period, please, tell them of our program and invite them to participate.

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TODAY'S ASSIGNMENT

As world tensions increase, so do the challenges extended to the church. Few generations have faced a more bewildered and confused world than ours; and few generations have had greater opportunities to extend the Gospel of Jesus Christ than ours. Never have men needed more the Christ Whom we proclaim. The work of Saint Luke's for this coming season is rather sharply defined for us. However, the work of Saint Luke's is your work, the work of each and every member. Together we must face our opportunities and accept our challenges. Together we must rally around the Cross of Christ and from it receive the power and the strength, the faith and the vision we need to meet Today's Assignment. Use the worship services of your church as your rallying point and your personal witness to the power of Christ in today's world.

SERMON TOPIC FOLDER

Enclosed is a sermon topic folder, covering the worship services until the end of January, 1962. Included in the services are a number of sermons on prayer as well as the more general subject of Christian faith. In addition, a number of special occasion services are listed. Each sermon is so planned as to help us come into a closer living relationship with Christ, the Savior of all mankind, and thus help us face the demands of today's world on daily living. Each sermon will be Christ-centered, Bible based and relevant to today's living. Invite your friends to share any or all of these sermons.

ANNIVERSARY COMMUNION

On Sunday, October 1st, we shall observe the 111th Anniversary of the founding of our church with a special communion service. For this occasion we use our treasured communion vessels, which were first used in 1863 in the midst of the Civil War. In this manner we endeavor to link the past with the present and, thereby, dedicate ourselves to the tasks of the future. Let each of us use Sunday's service for our personal rededication to Christ and His Church.

BIRTHDAY OFFERING

As a rule we remember the birthdays of our loved ones and friends with some special gift of love. For a number of years now we have had a special Birthday or Anniversary Offering for our church. This year we again invite you to help us sponsor a special youth program, the Boys' and Girls' Clubs. Ours is an area of very limited recreational facilities for young folks. Our programs help much in combating the juvenile delinquency problem of our area. Your birthday gift to Saint Luke's will help in this particular project.

MESSERS LENGEMANN AND VON HINKEN

Last spring the Voters' Assembly created the special office of Elder Emeritus to show special honor to those who have rendered long and exceptional service to Saint Luke's. At subsequent meetings of the Church Council Mr. John Lengemann, who completed 50 years of service, and Mr. Herman Von Hinken, who served for 44 years, were elevated to the newly created office of Elder Emeritus. On Sunday, October 8th, during our regular morning worship service both of these men will be presented with a special citation. Plan to be present and show your appreciation to these two men who rendered almost a century of service to Saint Luke's.

NEW VICAR

Our student assistant for the current year is Mr. Benedict Yaspelkis, who is a student at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois. We are happy to have Mr. Yaspelkis with us and we wish him the Lord's richest blessings on his every effort for Christ in our midst. Mr. Yaspelkis will be primarily involved in the youth work and the mission outreach.

AIR-CONDITIONED SUMMER CHAPEL

During the early part of the summer the large Sunday School room in the undercroft of the church was completely renovated and redecorated and transformed into a summer chapel. Our new air-conditioned facilities have added much to our church plant and have given us a beautiful and comfortable chapel for summer worship services. If you have not yet seen the all-purpose lower auditorium, do so the next time you are at Saint Luke's. A number of substantial gifts have thus far been made. In the near future you will be given an opportunity to share in the project which was the first major undertaking of Saint Luke's since we occupied the 46th Street property.

YOUNG ADULT ANNIVERSARY

This fall the Senior Young Peoples' Society will observe the 25th Anniversary of its founding. There will be a special morning service on November 12th, followed by the celebration of Holy Communion. The afternoon program of informal activities and reminiscing will be followed by a banquet. All former members of the group, whose addresses are known, have been contacted. Should you know the name and address of anyone who was formerly associated with the group, kindly give the information to Mr. Donald Krenz, who is president of the young adult group.

"QUESTION SEVEN"

"Question 7" is a new full length, feature film which has been produced by the Lutheran churches of North America, the same group which gave us the Martin Luther film. "Question 7" quietly and effectively tells the true story of what the Communist bosses of the world are doing to stamp out religion among the peoples they control. This dramatic and timely film shows us what happens to individuals under such persecution. In doing so, it becomes a powerful call to us, who still are free, to hold fast to our God-given rights of choice lest it should happen to us. TIME magazine says, "Question 7" is a hit! A fine and gripping film from the makers of 'Martin Luther'!"

"Question 7" will open at the Guild Theater, 33 West 50th Street on September 28th and continue to October 18th. Tickets at the box office are \$1.80 week-nights and \$2.00 week-ends. You can get your ticket from members of the Dorcas Guild or at the Church Office for \$1.30. Plan to attend yourself; purchase tickets for your friends and see "Question 7" which the National Board of Review states, "may well be one of the year's 10 best."

COPIES OF SERMONS AVAILABLE

Through the kind and unselfish efforts of Mrs. Emma Hahn, copies of Pastor Neibacher's sermons are made available. They can be picked up at the desk in the narthex any Sunday morning or you can receive a copy by calling the Church Office.

BRIEFS

The Sunday School, which meets each Sunday at 9:30 A.M. has felt the strains of a changing community. Though there has been a drop of 10% in attendance in the public schools in this community, our loss of enrollment over the summer is closer to 20%.....The Dorcas Guild is in the process of reorganizing and strengthening its program in order to better serve the business and professional women of the church. On Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7:45 Mr. B. K. Schaefer will speak on "The New Nations of East Africa," basing his discussions on his recent trip to East Africa.....During the week of October 15th Pastor Neibacher will direct the Lutheran Open House Evangelism program of the Lutheran churches of the Buffalo, New York area.....Are you behind in your weekly offering envelopes? It is so easy during the summer months, when we are on vacation, to forget our responsibility to the church.....We are anxious this fall to organize a Brownie and a Cub Scout troop for the younger boys and girls of the church. Would you volunteer to serve as one of the leaders in this group?.....This fall Pastor Reuning plans to reorganize our Childrens' Choir. We look forward to this group participating in our regular services.