



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

1 October 1991

Dear Members and Friends,

A reporter for Newsday, the metro-area daily paper, asked me recently what I felt was the most unique thing about Manhattan. Ferreting through a whole long list of possibilities, I finally said, "I think it is the fact that Manhattan is in a constant state of ferment." By that I meant, it is nearly impossible to nail down a specific characteristic of this "island" that would remain constant . . . other than its constantly-changing existence!

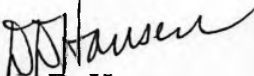
As I look back over my sixteen years here it's a far different place than when I arrived in February of 1975. The setting was reeling from a take-over by the pornographic industry, business blocks were fast becoming skeletons filled with vacant store and office quarters, and incidence of crime was at an all-time high. Hard on the heels of that things changed a bit . . . as the drug culture took over. Our infamous battles replete with Guardian Angels and beefed up police presence gradually began to restore some sanity and safety to our community.

Today signs of new life are everywhere. People are beginning to move back to our neighborhood, the predators are greatly reduced in presence and threat, and the Times Square redevelopment continues to bode an improved quality of life for us all.

Oh, "paradise" hasn't arrived! We still cope with the facts-of-life living here at the Crossroads of the World . . . but our optimism and our opportunities soar as this little parish off Times Square hangs in there with its tenacious commitment to the Gospel in word and deed. At the moment the economic pinch is taking its toll on business and people living and working here . . . but that only helps to remind us of God's good Grace and Power and Love sufficient for every one of our needs!

Our 141st Anniversary will be celebrated with appropriate aplomb on Sunday, October 20th, Saint Luke's Day. A Festival Eucharist in the morning will again waft our praises heavenward in thanks for all God is and does and promises. I've titled my sermon "ONCE UPON THIS ISLAND" . . . as we think over what has happened in our history , what's going on right now, and how we look forward to serving in the tomorrows God gives us.

And thank you, dear member and friend, for sticking with the mission and ministry of this outpost on this little island . . . for Saint Luke's to continue being an island of God's mercy and love in an often merciless and uncaring place. God bless you !


Dale D. Hansen
Pastor

*Thanks for your
gift toward our
Anniversary offering -
helping to keep us
going!*

NEWS & NOTES: *Mary Montanez*, mother of *Esther*, was remembered with thanksgiving in a Memorial Service on Saturday, September 14th. Choir member *Tim Ryan* is seriously ill and has been in NY University Hospital. Newlyweds *David Sitler* and *Carolyn Popp* will be moving to Jersey City . . . but will remain active members of St. Luke's. Both are in our choir and David is on the Church Council and Vicar Committee. +++ Reservations continue to come in for the Benefit on October 20th. . . 81 of the hundred places have been reserved as of September 29th! Wonderful! +++ The 29th Street Repertory Theatre donated 40 folding chairs to St. Luke's in appreciation for using the lounge occasionally for rehearsals. Thanks! +++ *Pastor Hansen* and *Vicar Hutchens* attended an exhibit and lecture on "Drugs, Guns and Crime" at the Police Headquarters on September 19th . . . a special information workshop for clergy. +++ A number of Lukans attended the Billy Graham Central Park Rally on September 22nd. . . organizers were hoping for a million persons in attendance. +++ Additional wiring has provided necessary power for The Family School's equipment. . . a micro wave oven for the children's lunch preparation, stereo, radio, refrigerator, etc. No more blown fuses! +++

W O R S H I P at S A I N T L U K E ' S

Sundays - *The Sung Eucharist at 11:00 a.m.*

Monday thru Friday - *Morning Prayer at 8:25 a.m.*

Wednesdays - *Holy Communion at 12:10 & 7:00 p.m*

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October 6 Pentecost XX

"THE GRACE OF WRATH!"- Sermon by Pastor Hansen

October 13 Pentecost XXI

"GOOD for NOTHING!" - Sermon by Pastor Hansen

October 20 St. Luke's Day

Our 141st Anniversary

"ONCE ON THIS ISLAND" - Sermon by Pastor Hansen

Annual Benefit for St. Luke at Danny's Sea Palace 5pm

October 27 Reformation Sunday

"A NEW WORLD ORDER" - Sermon by Pastor Hansen

