



# View from the Tower

Volume 9, Issue 1

A Newsletter of Saint Luke's Church  
Looking out over Times Square

Spring/Summer  
2009

Dear members and friends:

Summertime always brings with it some wishful thinking: the world will slow down, we'll have time to spend enjoying the parks, traveling, visiting with family and friends, reading a new book or just plain resting before a new season starts up in the fall. We look forward to opportunities for renewal.

Of course, it doesn't always happen that way. Going away for a while brings its own set of problems. We can be so frantic before going away that we wonder if it's worth all the effort! But usually, once we are on the road and away from the daily stresses, we discover that the time spent apart from others is well worth it. We return with new energy, new ideas, and new zeal for work that only a short time ago had seemed stale and tiring. We are quite literally "re-created" in the moments when we are away.

The Psalmist knew the tremendous power of the natural world to inspire our faith. In Psalm 121 he wrote: *I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.* In seeing the mountains about him, the Psalmist was inspired to reflect on the One who had fashioned them, and to trust that this One would be there for him. That's not always easy to see in the world. The disciples were frightened by the storm whirling about their boat, but Jesus calmed the storm and brought peace to the world and to them. His cross is a reminder of that peace. For that reason, the best "re-creation" happens when we make

time for prayer and for faith even as we play. I hope you will remember to worship when you are away; that you will let the healing presence of Jesus be part of the "re-creation" that is so important to every person's life.

*Pastor Schmiede*



The cross stands at the center of life at Koinonia in the Chapel of the Pines, and also at the center of everyday life. Remember to worship when you go for "re-creation" this summer.

## Saint Luke's Rummage Sale Benefits Soup Kitchen

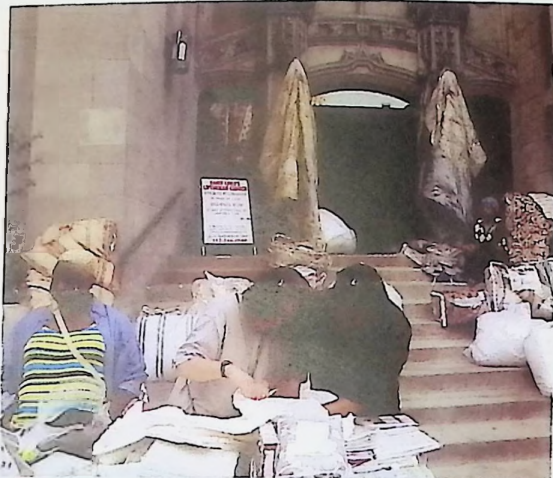
On Saturday, May 9, volunteers spent the day staffing the sales tables on the front steps of the church entrance as blankets, bedding, knick-knacks, books, and toys all went on sale.

It was the day of the Ninth Avenue Street Fair and the congregation took advantage of it by selling accumulated "nice junk" to benefit the Soup Kitchen budget. Two prior evenings were spent getting items ready to sell by labeling them with prices.

Then on Saturday morning all was set out and interested shoppers flocked to the tables until the sale closed at 5:00 p.m. All in all more than \$2,900. was raised for the work of our Soup Kitchen.

Plans call for another Sidewalk Sale in early October. Until then save your goodies until it's time to bring them to church.

**Remember!**  
**Soup Kitchen continues**  
**through the summer!**  
**Every Tuesday & Thursday**  
**At 1:00 p.m.**



## Spring Congregational Meeting Takes place on May 3

Members of the congregation heard reports from the pastor and staff and from its various boards and committees at the Spring Meeting on Sunday May 3. In addition, a financial report for the first quarter of the year showed that the receipts and expenses were essentially in line with the budget adopted in December.

A new item of business was a proposal from the Council to amend the Constitution to remove the category of Associate Membership. Approval would mean that there would be only full membership in the congregation, but that members would be permitted to hold membership in other congregations as well. The proposal was passed at the meeting and in order to be adopted requires one more vote without any changes. That vote will take place at the December meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report are available to any who would like one. To obtain a copy, contact the Church Office.



## SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2009

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009



## Summertime at Saint Luke's

### Worship:

Holy Communion

Every Sunday: 11:00 a.m..

Every Wednesday:

12:10 noon and 7:00 p.m.

Healing Mass

Third Wednesday at 12:10 noon.

### Service to the

### Community:

**Soup Kitchen:**

Tuesday & Thursday at 1:00 pm.

**Clothing Bank:**

1st Monday each month at 11:30 am

### Summer Retreat:

**Dates:** July 31 through August 2

**Location:** Koinonia Lakeside Retreat

## Summer Rafting Weekend at Koinonia July 31st to August 2

Summertime means opportunity to slow down a bit, to rest and enjoy God's beautiful creation. Not everyone can afford a lengthy time off, but the Summer Rafting Weekend is a real possibility for everyone in the congregation.

Plan now to be part of this enjoyable weekend at Koinonia, our Synod's retreat center in upstate New York near Pt. Jarvis. You can get there with everyone else on the train, or you can arrange your own transport. We stay at the Lakeside Retreat Center, a rustic center on the lake itself, with a kitchen where we can prepare our meals, bunkrooms for sleeping (or bring a tent and pitch it outside!), a fire ring for sitting in the evening. The shore is lined with blueberries for picking. Boats, canoes and kayaks are just across the dam at the swimming area.

On Saturday we spend the day rafting on the Delaware River. This is an easy float trip with just enough fast water to keep everyone interested. Those who would rather not raft have the day to themselves on Koinonia's 1200 acres of land.

Sunday morning we worship at the Chapel of the Pines with the rest of the camp community and following lunch in the Rafter's, we prepare to depart for home on the afternoon train.

The cost of the weekend, including rafting is \$100. plus train fare. For those whose budgets are tight, financial aid is available.

Take advantage of this wonderful time to be together, to rest, to enjoy the world, and to be "re-created." Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex. Simply complete one and return it with your deposit to the church office.

### VIEW FROM THE TOWER

is published by  
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### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays at 11 A.M.  
Wednesdays: 12:10 & 7 P.M.

**Pastor: The Rev. Paul D. Schmiede**

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Dale D. Hansen  
Cantor: Pedro d'Aquino  
Parish Administrator: Nhorie V. Leonardo

### Fall Plans

**Rally Day** When we welcome everyone back is set for Sunday, Sept. 13. Choir resumes then.

**Wednesday Bible Study** will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 6:30 p.m., with the first of a new series entitled: "Love and Faithfulness." We'll explore relationships, the Bible, commitment in our age, marriage, etc. Come and be part of this interesting series.



**The Delaware River valley near Koinonia.** The view from the Hawk's Nest is spectacular. Plan to be part of the Summer Rafting Weekend!