

Youth & Confirmation



ADAM ERICKSON

Go to www.stlukes-elca.org for full descriptions and to register and pay securely for each event. Contact Adam Erickson with any questions at aerickson@stlukes-elca.org; or 831-6084 extension 18.

CONFIRMATION. Contact Adam Erickson to register your incoming 6th-9th grader for the 2011-2012 confirmation program. Information booklets are available at the Information Center or online at www.stlukes-elca.org.

CONFIRMATION J-TERM CLASSES. J-Term classes for students and parents will take place from 6:30-7:30pm on **Wednesdays, January 4 and 18.**

CONFIRMATION SUMMER EXPERIENCE 2012. If you are enrolled in confirmation then you are encouraged to participate in your class' summer experience (even if you enrolled in track 2 or 3)! Complete information is available at the St. Luke's website.

6th Grade: Pine Lake Confirmation Camp - **June 17-22, 2012** - \$375

7th Grade: Pedal and Paddle - **June 24-29, 2012** - \$375

8th Grade: Roller Coasters & Jesus - **July 30 - August 3, 2012** - \$375

9th Grade: High School Mission Trip - **July 8-14, 2012** - \$550 OR Rocky Mountain Backpacking - **July 20-29, 2012** - \$500.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SNOW TUBING - MONDAY, JANUARY 23. There's no school, so let's spend the day snow tubing down Cascade Mountain's 800 foot hill! We'll leave St. Luke's at **9am** and return at **5pm**. This is a FREE event, but you must sign up by **Sunday, January 15**. The cost of food and drinks are on your own, or pack a lunch to save money!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - WEDNESDAYS FROM 7:30-8:30PM. Middle school students are invited to youth group **Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30pm**. We spend our time running around playing crazy games and having fun. *All are welcome!*

THE ROCK & WORSHIP ROADSHOW - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4. Middle school students are invited to spend an evening listening to great music at the Rock & Worship Roadshow at the Coliseum. We'll leave St. Luke's at **3:30pm** and return at **10:30pm**. The cost is \$10 (bring extra money for food and drinks). Register by **Wednesday, February 1**. There's room for 14 so sign up now!

POLAR PLUNGE - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18. High school students are invited to be a part of St. Luke's Polar Plunge team! We'll have a blast and help raise funds for Special Olympics! Each plunger needs to raise a minimum of \$75 in order to participate. Sign up online or at the Information Center and Adam will be in contact with you about how to be a part of this great event.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - SUNDAYS FROM 6:30-8PM. All high school students are encouraged to come to high school youth group Sunday evenings from **6:30-8pm**. We'll start with pizza, snacks and hang-out time from **6:30-7pm**, share in a brief time of worship at 7:00 led by the high school praise band, and then do things like play games, discuss the theme from worship or do service work. *All are welcome!*

HIGH SCHOOL ICE SKATING - FRIDAY, JANUARY 20. Finals are finished so spend the evening ice skating or playing hockey at Vilas Park! We'll meet at the church at **8:50pm** and return by **11:30pm**. This is a FREE event (concession items are available for purchase). Sign up by **Sunday, January 15**. Let's hope for great ice by then!

FINALS WEEK STUDY CENTRAL. Beginning **Tuesday, January 17, 8am - 5pm**, the church building will be open for studying. Rooms in the Education Wing offer Wi-Fi access and a quiet place. If you have a study group, bring them here and claim one of the classrooms. Friendship Hall will be open at various times for basketball/volleyball (a schedule of availability will be posted each day). We'll have food throughout the day - some healthy, some not. Contact Adam with any questions

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
7337 Hubbard Avenue
Middleton, WI 53562-3115

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HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP PLANNED FOR SUMMER 2012. St. Luke's is heading back to Kentucky for the high school mission trip **July 8-14, 2012!** All students currently in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate. Complete information can be found online. A \$200 deposit is required to sign up. Total cost is \$550. The first 22 students to register get to go so register now!

JANUARY 1-15, 2012

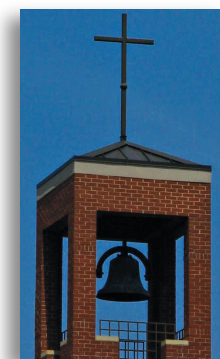
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DELIVER BY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

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Sunday Worship Celebrations:

- 8:00am**
- 9:00am**
- 10:00am**
- 11:00am**



Saint Luke's TOWER

JANUARY 1-15, 2012

A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, MIDDLETON, WISCONSIN
Pastors Roger Eigenfeld and Heather Lampert



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY AT ST. LUKE'S

If the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District is closed, or has early release due to inclement weather, all daytime activities (other than worship) are cancelled. Call the Church Office, or check the website (www.stlukes-elca.org) for the status of activities scheduled **after 5pm**.



Small Group Ministry

Connections ST. LUKE'S SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Just as we were challenged to enter the Advent Conspiracy during Advent, so too there will be a challenge for the upcoming Lenten season. Would you like to see your spiritual life grow in ways you can't at this moment imagine? That is what's possible through the power of small groups. The challenge is this: spend one hour a week growing your spiritual life in a small group during Lent. Watch for more details and begin praying about your involvement in this challenge!

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAMS

Adam Erickson, our Director of Youth Ministries is looking for middle and high school students as well as several adult mentors who are interested in helping shape the middle and high school ministries here at St. Luke's. We meet **each month on the second Tuesday** from **6:30 - 8pm**. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, January 10**. Pizza will be served. For more information please contact Adam at 831-6084 ext. 18 or, aerickson@stlukes-elca.org.

Adult Education



"Alive In Christ"

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY: ROMANS

Sundays • Beginning January 8 (13 sessions) • 9am
In the Conference Room (next to the Church Office)

If you've ever struggled to express what it means to follow Christ, Romans can give you the right words to say. It offers one of the clearest expressions of Christian belief, covering major issues - faith and works, law and grace - in lively, practical terms. If you desire spiritual renewal, the book of Romans is a good starting point. Books are available in the Church Office for \$9.00. *Please join us!*

From Your Senior Pastor



PASTOR ROGER EIGENFELD

Reaching your limits

Most of us think we can accomplish anything. After all, that's the American way. See the task, marshal the resources, and, in due time, the task will be completed and a brand new day will have dawned. We think of ourselves as invincible and capable of doing anything we put our minds to.

Now, on the surface, that's a terrific way to go about living your life. Far too many of us let circumstances take control of our life and admit failure before we even begin to put up a fight. And yet the people we admire are those who have a knack at becoming a sort of Superman who goes into the phone booth, uncovers his cape, and flies off to do battle with whatever obstacle stands in his way. (Note: there is no such person as Superman. In fact, very soon there will be no such thing as a phone booth.)

Jesus, on the other hand, has a different approach to triumphant living. He shares, in just a few words, his formula for success. It's a formula that has him right smack in the middle of life and says, "Without me you can do nothing!" That's it! If you want to accomplish anything in life you're going to have to include him. No debate. No, "You don't really mean that, do you, Jesus?" Just a flat out statement that says Jesus is the key to your future and the only key that will fit into the lock of life.

As you begin this New Year I would encourage you to reintroduce yourself to this one called Jesus Christ. You may be a teenager or approaching your 90th birthday. You may be one for whom life has been a constant walk with Jesus or you just might be a newbie who hasn't quite understood what these Christians are all about. But, whoever you are, I would once again invite you into a relationship with Christ that goes deeper, encompasses more, demands greater devotion and has higher expectations for personal ethics and moral behavior. Seek out this Christ who is already seeking you. Devote yourself to understanding just how important he is to the kind of life you really want to live. And then, watch the obstacles in life begin to fade away. Because, you see, he also says, "With me all things are possible."

Happy New Year!

Roger C. Eigenfeld, Pastor

Get on two of our email lists! Receive an email from Pastor Roger with his inspiring weekly message. Stay informed with all the happenings at St. Luke's by receiving the link to a PDF version of the TOWER through your email. Stop in the office, or call us at 831-6084 and give us your email address for one or both.

Upcoming Membership Information Night

Tuesday, February 21 • 7:00 - 9:00pm • All are Welcome!

If you are without a church home we invite you to become a part of our growing family here at St. Luke's. Our next *Member Information Night* will be **Tuesday, February 21** from **7-9pm**. New members would then be formally received **Sunday, March 4** at any of our four morning worship services. Child care will be provided for those with that need. Contact Julie Murray at 831-6084, or jmurray@stlukes-elca.org to sign up.

Sunday School/Children/Family Ministries



PASTOR HEATHER LAMPERT

SUNDAY SCHOOL

St. Luke's offers Sunday school classes for children are 3 through 5th grade during our **9:00** or **10:00am** worship services. Registration can be turned in any time and the form can be found online or at our Information Center. Classes resume **January 8**. Pastor Heather is still in need of a 3rd grade teacher at **9am** for this upcoming semester. Please contact her for more information.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Our January Family Event is a game night with pizza on **Saturday, January 21** from **3-6pm**. There's no cost for this event - just bring a game, a snack and your friends! Last year we had a ball shedding some cabin fever and having fun! Sign up today.

New Class Taught by Pastor Heather

"Getting a Grip: Finding Balance in Your Daily Life" is the focus of a new six-week bible study led by Pastor Heather. This class will meet on **Monday** evenings from **6-7:30pm** and will begin **January 9**. Childcare will be available. The cost is \$8.00 for the book. Please join us - sign up today!

Women's Ministry



Upcoming Winter Retreat

Sign up will soon be available for the next women's retreat on the weekend of **February 10-11, 2012**. We will be at the lovely Prairie Center at Bethel Horizons and our theme will be "Transitions." Make plans to join Pastor Heather for this time of renewal and growth. Watch for more details and sign up availability.



St. Luke's Prayer Group ...

meets every **Monday morning** at **8:30am** in the church sanctuary. Everyone is welcome. *A chair has been reserved for you.*



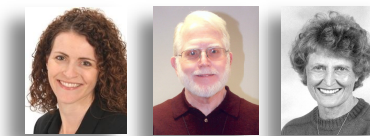
Please pray for those serving our country in the Military, Peace Corps, AmeriCorps:

Jess Denton, Dan Jackson, Nicholas Keller, Troy Kleinheinz, Patrick McKenna, Andrew Olson, Thomas Schadeberg and those who have served in the past.



To start the prayer chain call Ruth Brooks at 849-9024.

Senior Ministries



JULIE CRUZ ROB GIBSON ALICE OHLROGGE

SENIOR MINISTRY BULLETIN BOARD

For news about events and Senior Ministry programs, be sure to check the bulletin board near the entrance to Friendship Hall and the electronic message board.

NEXT GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

► **Thursday, January 19, beginning at 11:00am.** The program will begin with a presentation by Winston Persaud entitled "Life in Christ in the Maturing Years". This presentation will be followed by a free will offer lunch. After lunch, Judy Miyagawa of the Arthritis Foundation will give a presentation entitled "Getting a Little Movement in Your Day". Call the Church Office ahead of time to reserve your lunch. Sign up deadline is **Sunday, January 15**.

NEW YOGA CLASS SCHEDULE

► **Mondays at 5:30pm. January 9, 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13.**
► **Tuesdays at 5:45pm. January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14.**

Cost is \$45 for all six classes, \$25 for any three or \$10 each individual session.

You can sign up for classes in the Church Office, or at the session itself.

NEW ZUMBA CLASS SESSION 1

► **Thursday at 5:30-6:30pm. January 5, 12, 19, 26.** Classes are in Friendship Hall.

Cost is \$35 for all four classes, or \$12 for any single class.

COAT DRIVE FOR M.O.M. THROUGH MARCH 2012



Middleton Outreach Ministry needs assistance in keeping families warm this winter. You can donate slightly used or new winter coats, hats, scarves, and gloves/mittens at M.O.M.s Distribution Center **now through March**. Help make a difference in peoples lives! If you have questions contact Michael Harty at 608-219-0593.

Caring Ministries



IHN - THE ROAD HOME

THE ROAD HOME NEEDS YOUR HELP!

St. Luke's is part of the Road Home program, an organization that provides shelter, food and support for homeless families. In order to continue this worthwhile ministry, St. Luke's is in need of more volunteers! We are in need of more overnight hosts; if you can sleep, you can help! We also need a new Moving helper, who would drive a U-Haul truck to the next host church.

In addition to volunteers, we are in need of gently used toys for the children to play with while they are at our church. If you can help, please contact either Rhonda Stauske at 836-9812 rstauske@merr.com, or Robin Zimmerman at 279-9881 robin.zimmerman@promega.com.