

ENGLISH - NEWS - ST LUKE

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

October 2015

English Lutheran

210 Water Street
Medina, ND 58467
701-486-3112

St. Luke Lutheran

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Streeter, ND 58483
701-424-3383

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Jacob Hofmann
English Council President

Clydell Dockter
St. Luke Council President

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Parish Secretary
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www.medinastreeterparish.org

Join Us For
**Trunk
or
Treat**



October 31st

@

English Lutheran Church

Games: 6:00 to 7:00 pm

Trunk or Treat: 7:00 to 7:30 pm

Free Meal

Costumes encouraged!
(no blood, gore or anything scary)

Ages 0-12 years and your parents

Our Mission:

Called to be shepherds, doing God's work, daily.

To the churches of the Medina-Streeter Lutheran Parish: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This past summer our synod of the ELCA, the Eastern North Dakota Synod, held an event at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota specifically aimed at Rural and Multipoint Parishes within the synod. The event bore the name *Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Your Congregation*. Recognizing that this was a conference that would most likely benefit our Rural, Multipoint Parish, I invited members from each church to attend this conference with me to gain ideas in order to do what the name of the conference suggested; to build vitality within our congregations and parish. Out of this conference came many great ideas that I hope to be able to utilize in various ways throughout the coming months and years.

One of the take home ideas came in the form of a book each congregation, or multipoint parish, received by attending the conference. Over the next few months it will be my goal, through this avenue of monthly newsletter articles, to share with you the insights gained from this book that bears a similar name to the conference itself. This book, written by David Poling-Goldenne and L. Sannon Jung, is entitled *Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2001). Through each chapter of this book, the authors take us through stories of hope within churches in rural America that have found vitality, all the way down to the possible mission the audience can have within their own congregations to discover hope for the future. It is my intention to lead us through these nine chapters in the coming months.

In the opening chapter, entitled *Stories of Hope: Finding Vitality in Rural America*, we are invited and welcomed on a journey of discovery. The first stop on this journey was to lay out the problem most congregations in the rural setting face; that is a general sense of despair. Rural congregations that find themselves in despair, according to the authors, will generally have these sentiments running through its voices: “We are too small,” “We have no young people,” and “We just can’t afford our pastor.”¹ With these sentiments in mind the researchers set out to find out what the real experts of rural setting vitality had to say on the subject; the people who have experienced it first-hand. What they came up with was a collection of stories that highlight some “best practices” from the field for the field; from those who have done it in the past for those in similar situations who are willing to learn from those who have been there before.²

But why rural America, one might ask about the focal point of this study? The authors explain that this is because “rural congregations are now found in agricultural, mining, logging, ranching, open-plain,

God's Helpers News

Our WELCA Bible study and meetings began on Thursday, September 17th at 2 pm. Pastor Ryan and Elsie presented the offering meditation "Just Askin." Pastor began our Bible study by all playing the game "Wine-Opoly" followed by questions on how this game relates to everyday life.

A big thank you to Denise and Robin for organizing the German supper, a big success. Thank you to the fifteen ladies for volunteering to bring Kuchen bars to the German Supper and to all helping with the supper in any way.

A decision on having a bazaar was tabled until the council meets to discuss a 2nd annual hunter breakfast. We purchased 48 soup bowls. Five ladies went to the Gackle Guest Program at Emmanuel Lutheran on Sept. 13th.

We will begin our new Bible study next month, "The Wise & The Foolish." All ladies are welcome to join us. Elsie served refreshments. Next meeting is Tues. Oct. 20th, 2 pm. JoAnn will serve refreshments.

Elsie Goldsmith, secretary/treasurer

Attention all St. Luke ladies!

We will be serving for Martha Dewald's auction at the Memorial Hall on Sat. October 24th. Morning coffee and lunch. Will be calling for workers and will need donations of bars, individually wrapped. More details to follow.

The council will have their second annual hunter breakfast on Friday, Nov. 6, serving from 8 am - 11 am. At the same time, we will have a bake/goodies sale, also selling assorted cards and dish cloths. Please have your items at the church on Thursday, if you are not helping Friday morning. No white elephant items! This will take the place of a bazaar. A donation from the breakfast will be given to our WELCA. All funds received from our bake sale, will stay with our unit. As our WELCA funds are down, we appreciate the council letting us participate on the 6th, in this way.

Rally Sunday Day of Service

On Sunday September 27th English Lutheran Church welcomed back the Sunday School Program for another year of faith formation for our young brothers and sisters in Christ. The day began with Sunday School before Worship at 11am. During Worship we commissioned our Sunday School Teachers for another year of Service as well as presented our Third Grade Class with their very own Bibles. Third Graders receiving a Bible this year were: Kennedy Behm, Kameron Bodvig, Adam Dehne, Madelyn Gefroh, Aiden Greer, Madison Hofmann, Taya Schelske, Katie Schmidt.

Following our Rally Sunday Worship a group of people gathered together for an afternoon of service at the Medina Cemetery. Following a light lunch provided by a few ladies, the workers headed out to the Cemetery to paint the outhouse, trim around head stones, and pick up litter and fallen twigs. It was a great day of Worship and Service to our Community!



October Worship Times & Events

Sun, Oct 4	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Luke	9:00 am
English	11:00 am
Thurs, Oct 8	Council Meeting
English	8:00 pm
Sun, Oct 11	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Luke	9:00 am
English	11:00 am
Wed, Oct 14	Confirmation
English	6:30—8:30 pm
Thurs, Oct 15	Bible Study
English	7:00 pm
Sun, Oct 18	Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
St. Luke	9:00 am
English	11:00 am
MOPS	3:00 pm
Tues, Oct 20	Bible Study & Council Meeting
St. Luke—Bible Study	2:00 pm
Council Meeting	7:30 pm
Sat, Oct 24	Martha Dewald Auction Sale @ Streeter
Sun, Oct 25	Reformation Sunday
St. Luke	9:00 am
English	11:00 am
Altar Guild meeting	10:00 am
Sun, Oct 25	Lori Geinert Benefit @ Gackle starting @ 11 am
Tues, Oct 27	Kids Bible Nite
St. Luke	3:30-5:00 pm
Wed, Oct 28	Confirmation
English	6:30—8:30 pm
Thurs, Oct 29	Medina Youth Group Meeting
@ Medina Park or Legion Hall	7:00 pm
Fri, Oct 30	Buffalo Supper @ Streeter
Sat. Oct 31	Trunk or Treat
English	beginning @ 6 pm
<u>November</u>	
Fri, Nov 6	Hunter's Breakfast
St. Luke	8:00 am—11:00 am
Sun, Nov 8	Soup & Sandwich
English	12 noon
Sun, Nov 22	Mission Fest (services combined)
St. Luke	11:00 am
No services @ English	

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PO Box 515
Medina, ND 58467

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