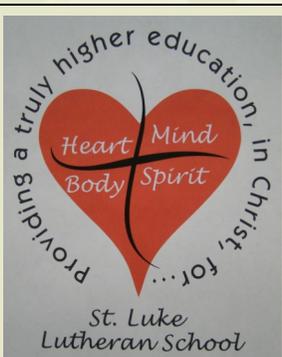


Alumni News

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WINTER 2011

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**NEW MISSION
STATEMENT AND
LOGO**

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MAKING SCIENCE REAL

Shayne Garcia-Bish joined the St. Luke staff this year as the part time Kindergarten through 5th grade hands-on science teacher.

She will lead the students on weekly adventures in science. Science becomes more real when students can touch and feel concepts. Shayne has many exciting projects planned for the entire school year.

One of the projects Shayne had the students assist with was the migration of the

Monarch butterfly. Shayne and the students fed caterpillars which turned into a chrysalis, changed to a butterfly, and then was ready to migrate to Mexico. Yes, that's a

long way to fly. The crossover into other subject areas are impressive as well - math, geography, biology, all from a simple butterfly experiment.



The start of a very exciting science experiment for grades Kindergarten through 5.

PENNIES FOR PEANUT BUTTER

The students at St. Luke partnered with the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank to buy jars of peanut butter. The Food Bank considers peanut butter one of its most needed items. One jar holds about 800 pennies - or

enough to buy seven jars of peanut butter. The students filled and refilled their peanut butter jars from the start of school until Thanksgiving. They raised over \$1,000 so far and still counting!



One of the many jars filled by the students.

8TH GRADERS AT AMBROSE FARM

Recently, the 8th grade students spent the morning gleaning the fields of Ambrose Vegetable Farm. The har-



8th graders gleaning the fields at Ambrose Farm.

vest was donated to Salvation Army for distribution in their food pantry and hot meal efforts.

Long time Cabot residents and St. Luke Lutheran School alumni, Steve and Wes Ambrose, graciously allowed the 8th grade students to go and

glean their fields and take the harvest every Fall. This partnership has been a tradition for over 20 years. This harvest is an outstanding lesson for the students in being good stewards of the land and what we reap from it, letting nothing go to waste.

The morning typically yields approximately two farm truck loads of

produce with a market value of several hundred dollars. This year the 8th graders picked peppers, eggplants, pumpkins and tomatoes. Steve Ambrose says, "I am glad someone can use them. It is like having a big dinner and leftovers." Thank you Ambrose Farm!

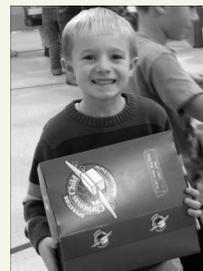
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

"Operation Christmas Child" is a partnership with Samaritan's Purse. Last year 8 million children received a shoe box filled with goodies along with the message of God's love. Since 1993, over 130 countries have received shoe boxes full of hope through the pro-

gram. There is one mission and one message, "To demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world."

Many thanks to the students and members of St. Luke Lutheran Church and School for

contributions of supplies and monetary gifts to make it possible to pack 180 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Your contributions made it possible for children throughout the world to hear the message of salvation.



One of our 1st graders poses after packing a shoe box for Operation Christmas Child.

LOVE IN A SHOEBOX

"It has been a challenge to portray the destruction and hardships of war through bouncy, energetic children."

Mrs. Beckstead

Operation Christmas Child inspired our own music teacher, Mrs. Diane Beckstead to write a musical play entitled "Love in a Shoebox" based on the true story of Lejla Allison whose life was changed when she received a box through Operation Christmas Child in 1993 during the

Bosnian War. At the age of 11, Lejla received a shoebox with a pair of shoes, and many other small items that she had not seen since before the war. The message inside the shoebox changed her life and she became a Christian.

The children performed

the musical, "Love in a Shoebox", Wednesday, December 7.

Mrs. Beckstead's hope was that the students would see that their simple action of placing small items in a shoe box could dramatically change the life of another child.

WILLIS F. FOLLSTAEDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

This year's recipient of the Willis F. Follstaedt Memorial Scholarship is Sarah Cook. Sarah was a 2005 graduate of St. Luke Lutheran School. Sarah is in her third year at Duquesne working on her degree as a Physician's Assistant.

The *Willis F. Follstaedt Memorial Scholarship* was begun by Dr. Vernon Neubert, a childhood

friend of Willis. Dr. Neubert wrote of many fond memories of the times he and Willis spent together and the fine example that Willis set. Dr. Neubert also expressed his appreciation for the fine Christian education Willis received at St. Luke Lutheran School. These memories and his appreciation led Dr. Neubert to establish the *Willis F. Follstaedt Memorial*

Scholarship. Each year, a grant will be presented to an eligible student. An applicant must be a graduate of St. Luke Lutheran School and currently be an active member of St. Luke Lutheran Church. The grant will consist of the interest generated by the endowment fund for one year.



*Sarah Cook
Class of 2005*



A WORD FROM BERTHA BLABB (A.K.A. SHARON KLEIN AMBROSE, CLASS OF '75)



history of the Willis F. Follstaedt Scholarship Fund, and perhaps even contributed towards it, so I thought you might like to know if the students have put it to good use. I had fun talking to lots of moms (sorry, but most dads are clueless) who proudly gave me the scoop on their successful offspring. Praise God for His blessings in the lives of these fine young folks and for enabling us to support St. Luke grads as they continue their education!

Our first recipient **Judye Ambrose Abernathy**, graduated from Concordia, Bronxville ('98) with a B.A. in Elementary Ed. She uses that training here, taking over Miss Fett's 4th grade class every Wed. morning, running our "Time for Two" program, & subbing as much as possible. Judye also works as a developmental specialist for Kindred Care, performing early intervention evaluations for local families. She is St. Luke's hand-bell choir director, in addition to being a wife & mother of 3 growing boys in Ford City.

Ernie Rodgers earned a B.S. in Business Management from Grove City ('00). After dabbling in Nashville's music scene for several years, he moved to a ranch in Platteville, CO, where he's a service manager for Image First. A talented musician, Ernie is considering going for a Masters of Worship Arts; for now, he and his wife keep busy wrangling their 3-yr. old son, horses, pony, small chicken flock, & clowder of cats.

Paul Wilt is using his B.A. in Graphic Design from LaRoche ('04), designing travel-related web sites, etc., for Airport Record Corp. in Arlington, VA. Paul has settled in Alexandria, the Wilt ancestral stomping grounds, close to his grandparents and little brother. He plays on 3 deck hockey teams & remains loyal to the Penguins, not the Caps.

Christine Rummel Price received her Masters of Ed. in Math from Gratz College, Philadelphia ('05) & is a high school math teacher in Fairfax Co., VA. A former track star & coach, Christine still runs for fun when she's not chasing after her husband & 9-mo.-old daughter. Thanks to some "divine coincidences", she also participates in a Bible study led by fellow alum Kristen DeLibero, who lives minutes away.

Joelle Ambrose may not use her Business Degree in Marketing in her current position, but the B.S. in Psychology from Pitt ('06) might come in handy as an assistant dolphin trainer! Now working at the world's largest aquarium in Atlanta, GA, Joelle's goal is to become a full-fledged dolphin trainer, then move up to killer whales! Another ex-track star, Joelle recently had knee surgery, so her active pastimes of running, dog walking, lifeguarding at Disney resorts, & traveling are on hold for a while.

Pretty sure BC3 grad ('04) **Rory DeYoung** needs his Applied Science in Computer Networking knowledge as a fiber support analyst for Verizon Fios in Pittsburgh. Rory enjoys motorcycling, hiking, camping, & traveling with his wife, son, & daughter; he also spends time fixing up their big, old, beautiful white house across from the Butler Library.

(continued on next page)

BERTHA BLABB (CONTINUED)

Zack Neubert majored in Communication with a minor in Journalism & Public Relations at I.U.P. ('07) & is working as a claims representative for Q.B.E First in Moon Twp. A big Pens fan, Zack plays in a men's hockey league & coaches Fox Chapel's freshmen hockey team. He'll leave his cherished childhood Cherry Valley home after a June '12 wedding.

With a B.A. in Music Education, K-12 from Concordia, Mequon ('09), **Rachel McCall** is the music director at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX, which just happens to be pastored by her oldest brother, Willis! Rachel gets to share her vast musical ability by playing a variety of instruments, directing the choirs, singing, etc. Rachel also performs with the local community musical theater group.

Heather Lynn graduated from Carnegie Mellon with a B.S. in Biological Sciences ('11) & is employed by Pitt Medical School in the research lab of Dr. Lo, located at Children's Hospital. Her future plans are to continue her career with a doctorate in the medical sciences, either in research or as a hands-on physician. Heather enjoys experimenting in her Shadyside kitchen, creating new vegetarian dishes.

Allison Brown received her Nursing Degree from Shadyside School of Nursing ('09) & is studying for her B.S.N. at Slippery Rock. She's at home in Butler, so she has a short commute to Concordia @ Rebecca Residence, where she's a nursing supervisor. Allison loves to bake & has begun selling cakes for special occasions, including weddings.

Jalaine Kaczmarczyk-Wallace is a senior at Gannon U. in Erie, pursuing a degree in the areas of Health Psychology/Neurology/Trauma, & planning to get a Master's Degree in Health Psychology. She became a Certified Patient Care Aide while working in the E.R. at UPMC, Erie. Jalaine is a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority; she also mentors abused young women, encouraging them to further their education.

In her third year at Duquesne, **Sarah Cook** is working hard to obtain her degree as a Physician's Assistant. She regrets that she doesn't have much time for her music, but she has some fun doing service projects on & off campus with a group of her fellow P.A.'s (see article at the top of page 3).

Ever heard of a B.S. in Fishery Science? Well, **Cody Tasker** received his, with a minor in Chemistry, from Mansfield (PA) U., ('11). He just returned from 6 months in Alaska, raising salmon for a fish hatchery, living on a remote island accessible only by boat or helicopter, with no cell service! Cody plans to earn his Masters in Fishery Science, then go into research or teaching. Obviously, he's a hardy outdoorsman who still loves to catch and eat his aquatic subjects!

Travis Tasker is a junior at Allegheny College, Meadville, studying Environmental Science & Biology, minoring in Economics, hoping to become an environmental engineer (his mom says he's going to save the planet). He spent the summer in Boulder, CO, studying acid mine drainage, the subject of his senior project. In January, he leaves for a semester in Ireland; Travis is captain of the school's soccer team & helps run church soccer camps, so he should fit right in with those UK "football" players!

After his second year in Communication at BC3, **Dustin Paulsen** will transfer to Grace Bible College in Grand Rapids, as a Worship Arts major. He's been a dynamic worship leader in our New Life services for years, & a great helper at VBS, Youth Group, & Sunday school, so he should excel in his field. Dustin is a member of a cool alumni-filled band, "Back to the Good Stuff" which plays all around town, and also squeezes in other part-time work.

Sadly, this year we lost two alumna from my era at St. Luke; each one suddenly, from complications following surgery; each was the second person in their class to go home to the Lord. **Tammy Clowes Gladkowski ('71)** died in April at 54; she lived in Smithsburg, MD, with her husband and her daughter, who gave birth to Tammy's first grandchild just days after the funeral. The family had the baby baptized at a beautiful service in our picnic pavilion. Tammy worked for 34 years with the Federal Dept. of Defense; she enjoyed sewing, quilting, & caring for others. I can still see her posing with her winning 8th grade science fair project for a Butler Eagle photo. **Janet Ambrose ('75)** passed away in July, just weeks after her 51st birthday & the wedding of her son. She also left behind two teenage daughters & a 15 month old granddaughter. Janet loved animals, photography, celebrating birthdays & holidays, & the family farm in Cabot. It didn't faze Janet that I was a very pregnant bridesmaid in her pastel rainbow-colored wedding. Please keep these families in your prayers; give thanks for each day you are able to share with your loved ones.

Throughout 2012, may God continue to bless you & everyone associated with our wonderful alma mater. I really can't wait to read your "Principal Tales", whether good, bad, or ugly!

CHALLENGE OF CHAMPIONS



4th, 5th, and 7th graders along with two teachers who attended Challenge of Champions

Very early on Saturday, November 12, ten students, two teachers, and a few parents from St. Luke School headed north to Hermitage, PA. At Kennedy Catholic Middle School, over 200 students from Western Pennsylvania participated in the Challenge of Champions.

Challenge of Champions is sponsored by the Intermediate Unit of Western PA. During the day students were divided into teams of ten—all students from different schools. The teams were presented with eight challenges varying from math and language arts to logic thinking skills and building

a robot from egg cartons and milk jugs. All challenges involved working together as a team and supporting one another.

Next year's Challenge of Champions will take place at Butler Catholic and our hope is that even more students from St. Luke will take on the "challenge."

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

DID YOU KNOW:

Coming soon we will have a new and improved website to visit and enjoy!



To find us on Facebook, go to "St Luke Church and School Cabot PA" and "St Luke Lutheran School Alumni and Friends" and click the "Like" button. This is a

great way to stay connected with the church and school friends.

GIVE A GIFT

St. Luke Lutheran School has been truly blessed. We are thankful for God's grace from generation to generation. In order for our school to continue to share the Gospel and excel in academics, additional materials and resources are needed. We always give thanks for the alumni volunteers who give of themselves in and around the school. As giving of yourself in such a personal way is not always possible, once again many of you have asked how you can support the school in other ways. There are special needs which can only be supported through private gifts. Specific funds have been established in order to provide our students with an ever broadening and enriching educational experience. We thank everyone for their generous support in the past and pray that God grant us the grace to continue touching others through this ministry of quality Christian education.

Please accept my gift to help continue the ministry of quality, Christian education at St. Luke Lutheran School.
___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500 ___\$1000 Other _____

My gift is an offering supporting the:

- ___Mark A. Neubert Memorial Endowment Fund ___Plant-A-Seed Fund ___O.J. Nicol Memorial Library Fund
___Willis F. Follstaedt Memorial Scholarship ___Annual Fund

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send me more information about: _____



Alumni News

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8TH ANNUAL FUND 2011-2012

For many months, a faithful committee worked to plan this year's Annual Fund Drive. Under the theme, "Let's Take the Next Step Together", over 1000 letters were mailed and three evenings were set aside to make follow-up phone calls seeking to reach this year's ambitious \$40,000 goal.

This year's annual fund drive had multi-purposes. Two-thirds of your donations will provide tuition assistance to families who otherwise could not afford to attend St. Luke. A portion of donations will further enhance education in the classrooms through the use of Mimio Teach Interactive Systems, online foreign language courses for our 7th & 8th graders, and fund construction of an additional outdoor play area and courtyard. A portion of donations will also be set aside for future needs in the Mark A. Neubert Memorial Endowment Fund, insuring that a St. Luke education will be available and accessible for generations to come.

A heart-felt thank you goes to all of our volunteers and to everyone who contributed to the 2011-2012 Annual Fund so generously. We are currently working toward our \$40,000 goal.

