

July/August 2011

St. Croix  
Lutheran High School  
of West St. Paul

@ ST. CROIX

Informing Parents. Reaching Out to Friends.

## SCHOOL STARTS

**MONDAY,  
AUGUST 29!**

8:05 am - 2:58 pm

## Bookmark it!

[www.StCroixSchools.org/hs](http://www.StCroixSchools.org/hs)

for all the latest news and events happening at St. Croix Lutheran High School, and

[www.StCroixSchools.org/ms](http://www.StCroixSchools.org/ms)

for information on St. Croix Lutheran Middle School.

## Picture Day September 2

**Picture day** is Friday, September 2, and two parent volunteers are needed to help the photography staff. **All students** have their photo taken for their SCLHS student ID card (including seniors).

If you are available to help direct students to the photographers 7:30-11am on September 2, please contact Mrs. Nye in the office (earn a free photo package!)

Parents may also order portrait packages—ask your student for the order form after school starts.

## WELCOME! FROM PRINCIPAL GIBSON

As a new school year begins, we welcome returning families and new families to St. Croix. All new and returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors are to attend the walk-in orientation on Thursday, August 18. Freshmen will have their own orientation on Wednesday, August 24. Details are printed below.

We also welcome to the St. Croix family our new teachers: Mr. Jay Wendland, (Director of Middle School Operations and instructor of MS World Language, MS Bible Class and PE 9), Mrs. Emily Krause (Spanish 1 and German 1) and Miss Emily Friend (dorm supervisor, Computer Applications and Algebra II). In July Mrs. Andrea Spanovich resigned her call as her family is moving to the Redwood Falls area, and Mr. Marc Shambeau has accepted an emergency assignment to teach Accelerated Algebra 2 and Accelerated Geometry.

Again this school year we will conduct a homeroom system to provide an advisor/adviser system for our students. Each instructor will be an advisor to a small group of students. Each "homeroom" group will have a few freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The homeroom meeting times will employ a curriculum that will help students acclimate to the new school year, create stronger bonds among the student body, and develop strong leadership traits.

*Parents of sophomores, juniors, and seniors are invited to meet their student's advisor at 7pm on Thursday, August 18, and freshman parents will hear more about the homerooms during orientation on Wednesday, August 24.*

*May the Lord bless our school year!*

## 2011-12 THEME IS "SHINE LIKE STARS"

CHAPEL DEAN PASTOR LEACH

This past summer my family had an opportunity to go camping for an extended weekend. We tried a new place, and since the nearest Wal-Mart was nearly an hour away, I suppose many would consider it to be the 'boonies.' One thing that still stands out to me is the number of stars we were able to see. What seems commonly dampened by the city lights comes into clear focus when you're out in the country. The contrasts were sharp. The night sky was deeper and darker while the numerous stars were brighter and clearer.

The apostle Paul sets up a similar contrast in Philippians. The Philippians were living in a godless world that he described as a "crooked and depraved generation" (2:14). Yet, amid the darkness, he says they "shine like stars in the universe" (2:14). This didn't happen because of them but rather, as Paul says, because "it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose" (2:13).

St. Croix continues to hold out the word of truth in what is still a dark world. That contrast sets us apart from other schools. Here the radiance of Christ's forgiving love pierces through the darkness and sets new hearts ablaze in faith. During an age filled with the

## REQUIRED BOOKS

Every student is required to have a copy of the *Christian Worship* hymnal for use during Chapel time. Hymnals will be sold in the office the first week of school at a cost of \$20.00.

Students are also required to have a Bible for their religion course. Copies of the New International Version Bible will be available for purchase from the religion instructors, or students may use any personal copies.

*The Student Supply List is available at [www.StCroixSchools.org/supplies\\_list](http://www.StCroixSchools.org/supplies_list) for your back-to-school shopping.*

## SCLHS PLANNER/ CALENDARS

Each student receives a Crusader datebook (student planner/calendar/handbook) with the orientation materials they pick up.

Parents of new students will receive a St. Croix Lutheran High School wall calendar and a copy of the Student-Parent Handbook during Orientation meetings. Returning parents may request a wall calendar by contacting the school office.

All students and parents may access the online calendar at [www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org) to verify the most current information on all school and athletic events.

stumbling blocks of poor choices, the word of truth speaks to the minds of our students, giving them discernment and godly wisdom. All along the way God promises to work in them, accomplishing his will and good purpose.

The stars are more brilliant in the darkness. May God bless our school year as, through him, we **"Shine Like Stars."**

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## **BUILDING PROJECTS UPDATE** FROM PRESIDENT PFEIFER

Biology Room Remodel - The Annual Fund for the biology lab renovation project has raised over \$110,000 – almost double the amount raised last year! We thank God for blessing this project and thank all who helped make possible this project to improve the educational lives of our students beginning next fall. The classroom demolition work has already been completed and new utility services are currently being installed. We anticipate the project's completion by mid-August.

Dormitory Project - The dorm project planning committee made up of members of the administration, Board of Regents, and dorm parents has met frequently for the past several months to determine a number of issues related to our proposed dorm project. The project's overall goals include expanding the dorm capacity to 150 beds, updating the outdated utilities and providing adequate living space to meet the needs of our students, and providing living quarters for four dorm supervisors and a set of dorm parents.

To assist on the project, Pope Associates of St. Paul has been hired to provide architectural work on the project, and Adolphson & Peterson Construction of Minneapolis has been hired as our General Contractor.

Key issues being studied include whether it's financially wise to remodel our existing dorms and construct a small addition, or rather to build a new facility. At this time it appears it is more cost effective to build a new dorm. A second issue revolves around master site planning to determine the best location for a proposed new dorm in order for the existing dorms to remain open during construction, while at the same time paying attention to future campus needs that include a more adequate space for our music program and a second gymnasium. A third area of consideration is planning a funding model that enables dorm construction to take place, while allowing for the possibility of a capital campaign for our entire master site plan in the future.

The administration plans to focus considerable time to give attention to these issues this summer and then prepare a report to update both the Board of Regents and the General Board on the topic this fall.

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## **CHECK YOUR MAILBOX!**

A recent mailing to parents contained important information concerning upcoming dates and meetings for both parents and students. If you did not receive the following, please call the school office at 651-455-1521.

- Student Orientation Details
- Parents' Night Invitation
- ISD 197 Hot Lunch Information
- Application for free or reduced-price lunches
- Dress Code
- Attendance Policy
- One-page 2011-12 SCLHS Calendar

## HOT LUNCH NEWS

Hot lunch service at St. Croix is provided by ISD 197 Child Nutrition Department and begins on September 6, 2011. Students will need to bring a lunch from home each day during the first week of school. Lunch menus are posted on [www.isd197.org](http://www.isd197.org) and are available in the St. Croix front office.

Lunch prices for 2011-12 are \$2.75 each, which includes milk; and a half-pint carton of milk is \$.50.

## REDUCED-PRICE OR FREE HOT LUNCHES

Households that may qualify for free or reduced-price meals will need to apply for the 2011-12 school year. Applications were included in the July mailing, and are also available in the front office.

Families are encouraged to apply, even if they have not previously qualified.

Senior portraits for the yearbook are due Monday, December 19. Families are encouraged to schedule the portrait sittings outside of class hours.

"Ads for Grads" orders are also due Monday, December 19.

Details of photo size requirements and info on ads for grads are available at [www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org) > [St. Croix A-Z](#).

- Vehicle Registration form
- Grandparents' Day invitation/registration
- Parent Network Pledge form
- Request for Confidentiality form (for use of student photos/name/address in publications and on website)
- Athletic Eligibility form (required by Minnesota State High School League)
- Fall Sports Information and Concessions Volunteer Schedule

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## SPORTS INFORMATION

Fall sports practices begin Monday, August 15. Practices will be held in the mornings, Monday through Friday, until school begins. Detailed information was included in the July mailing. Fall sports available to all grade levels are football, boys' and girls' soccer, volleyball, boys' and girls' cross country, girls' tennis, girls' swimming/diving, and boys' and girls' bowling.

**All athletes must have a current physical exam form on file, including a sports clearance form, before they may begin practice. Physicals are current for three years from the date of the examination (not three school years).**

More information on SCL sports and necessary forms are available at [www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org), Student Life & Activities tab/high school/sports.

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## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Completed **athletic eligibility forms are due August 15** for participation in fall sports. Other completed forms may be returned to the office at student orientation, meetings, or any time prior to September 9, 2011.

**Freshman orientation day** is Wednesday, August 24, 2-5 pm. Freshmen have activities from 2-5 pm designed to familiarize them with the school layout and staff, their classmates and advisors. Parents are included in the Freshman/Parent/Faculty picnic starting at 5:30 pm (sorry, siblings cannot be included).

A **mandatory** walk-in orientation day is scheduled for **all students in grades 10-12** on Thursday, August 18, 12:30-1:30 pm and 5-7 pm. Students should plan to spend about 15-20 minutes at school trying out their locker combination, checking class schedules, and locating classrooms.

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## FUNDRAISERS ENHANCE ST. CROIX MINISTRY

Two of St. Croix's annual athletic fundraisers make an impact on our St. Croix ministry. Both "Sports Day" and "Festival of Seasons" are very positive events for bonding and socializing among students, family, and friends. Besides this, the funds received allow us to add the "extras" to our athletic programs.

Last year the pledges for Sports Day raised \$8,500, which helped purchase new baseball and softball field scoreboards. This year our goal is to complete payment on those items and purchase a pitching machine. Thank you for your generous support of these items through your efforts and pledges!

## *Wanting to Carpool?*

Families interested in sharing the drive to St. Croix for the 2011-12 school year are encouraged to call the school office at 651-455-1521 to request a carpooling list for their area.

When you call, be prepared to give the following information: your name, your student's name, the school district that you live in, and other nearby school districts by ISD number. Requested lists will be mailed out within one week.



## GRADES 7 & 8 FOOTBALL

*The St. Croix junior high football team begins practice in August. Seventh and eighth grade athletes that want to participate in a very positive experience in tackle football are invited to attend.*

*Practices start on August 17, 6-8 pm. For further information, contact St. Croix Athletic Director Carl Lemke at 651-455-1521, ext. 104.*

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend and participate in:

- Sports Day – Wednesday, September 21 (details below)
- Festival of Seasons Boutique – Saturday, November 12

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## **SPORTS DAY FUNDRAISER** - SEPTEMBER 21, 5-8:30 PM

The annual "St. Croix Sports Day" is set for Wednesday, September 21, 2011. The activities planned include a "fun run," a parent/athlete meeting, and a picnic meal for all student athletes in any sport and their parents. **Attendance is required of all students considering participating in any sport (fall, winter, or spring).** Beginning at 5 pm, athletes will "Run for St. Croix Sports" on a course around Thompson Lake Park and ending in our stadium at the track finish line.

Students will collect pledges/donations to the sports program for their running. Participation in the "run" is not required, but attendance at the event is expected. Money raised by this event is used for non-budget items. **All athletes and their parents are expected at this Sports Day.** Join the fun and support all SCL sports!

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## **CALLING ALL GOLFERS!**

Support your school at the 18th Annual St. Croix Lutheran High School Golf Classic on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 1 pm at the beautiful Oak Glen Golf Course in Stillwater, MN. The \$125 admission includes a \$40 charitable donation, hat, green fees, cart rental, driving range, dinner, sleeve of balls, and prizes. You can also register for great event challenges like 50/50, Beat the Prez and the Cooler Challenge.

For more information, including registration forms, visit [www.StCroixSchools.org/golf-classic](http://www.StCroixSchools.org/golf-classic). Registration deadline is August 1. All skill levels are welcome to enjoy the fun and fellowship at the Golf Classic and support St. Croix Lutheran High School students!

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## **MINNESOTA LAW REQUIRES IMMUNIZATIONS**

Are your child's immunizations up-to-date? Minnesota law states that immunizations must be current before students start school in the fall. It is the parent's responsibility to follow up on this and have a copy of their child's immunizations sent to the school by August 29, 2011, the first day of school.

St. Croix Lutheran High School also recommends a current physical exam for all students. Physical exams are current for three calendar years (from date of exam). We truly appreciate your help in keeping these records current. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

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## **FOOTBALL CAMP**

Boys entering grades 6-9 are invited to attend a football camp at St. Croix Lutheran High School from August 8-12, 9 am to noon. The cost is \$55, which includes instruction, awards, and a camp tee-shirt. This camp utilizes shoulder pads and helmets (equipment issued by St. Croix).

Athletes will be taught proper blocking and tackling form with actual game-like situations. Registration forms are available on the website [www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org) or from the front office.

### Daily Announcements

are available via email and the website. Families automatically receive announcements via the email address provided at registration.

Please contact the office at [anye@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:anye@StCroixSchools.org) with questions, additions, or changes.

Announcements are updated daily on our website at [www.StCroixSchools.org/announcements](http://www.StCroixSchools.org/announcements).

### New Families Get Double Mail

It is very important that you consistently receive the parent news, so this August issue is being mailed via USPS **and** via email to NEW students' families.

**Future monthly issues will be emailed only**, unless you have requested a paper copy be mailed to your home address by contacting the school office.

Please check your email for a copy of this newsletter (check the "junk" folder, too). If you did not receive it via email, please contact the school office to correct our records with the accurate email address for you and your family. Thank you!

Questions? Contact Barb Backer at 651-455-1521, x128, or [bbacker@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:bbacker@StCroixSchools.org).

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## LRC AVAILABLE TO YOUR STUDENT

Dr. Carrie Pfeifer is in the process of planning for students that need Learning Resource Center support for the 2011-2012 school year. If you have a student with an identified learning or medical need OR if you would like your student to receive support from the Learning Resource Center, please contact Dr. Pfeifer via-email at [cpfeifer@stcroixschools.org](mailto:cpfeifer@stcroixschools.org).

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## PASTOR SCHAEFER MOVES TO MILWAUKEE

The class verse for 2011 is Proverbs 16:9. In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps. The Lord has led Pastor Bill Schaefer, St. Croix's Gift Planning Counselor, to accept a call to serve St. Marcus Lutheran in Milwaukee as Executive Pastor. St. Marcus has been richly blessed with a vibrant inner-city outreach ministry in Milwaukee. Their ministries include a large congregation and school, Time of Grace, Koine Christian rock group, and Wandani youth outreach. Pastor Schaefer's call is to oversee and coordinate the ministries of St. Marcus and use his gifts of preaching and teaching to support the other pastors of St. Marcus as they serve the spiritual needs of the members and community.

Pastor Bill and his wife Judy will always be part of the St. Croix family, and we thank them for their many contributions to this ministry as association pastor, Board of Regents chairman and secretary, Chapel building committee chair, and gift counselor. Our prayers go with them in this new ministry; may it be to God's glory.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### August

- 4 Middle School English & Math placement testing - 1-3pm
- 8 St. Croix Golf Classic - Shotgun start at 1pm, Oak Glen, Stillwater
- 8-12 Football Camp - 9am - Noon
- 15 Fall sports begin (football, volleyball, soccer, cross country, girls' tennis, swimming)
- 16 Bowling begins
- 18 Orientation for grades 10-12, 12:30-1:30 pm **OR** 5-7pm  
Parents of 10-12th graders Meet Your Student's Advisor - 7pm  
Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 22 Dorms open to new international students  
Middle School Orientation - New families: 6-8pm  
Returning families: 6:45-8pm
- 24-26 Registration & Orientation for new international students
- 24 Freshmen placement testing - 9am-Noon  
Freshmen Orientation - 2-5pm  
Faculty/Freshmen & New 10-12th Students/Parents picnic - 5:30pm  
Parents/Freshmen Meet the Advisors - after picnic
- 25 New Int'l Students & Mentors Activity - 2-6pm
- 26 Resident Assistants (RA) Training - 12:30pm  
Arrival date for Returning Int'l students  
New international students meet with advisors - 1-2:30pm
- 28 Regional Dorm Students Check-in - 1-3pm  
Cultural Awareness Workshop (required for dorm students & families) - 1-2pm  
New family/dorm student Dorm Orientation - 2-2:30pm  
Dorm & Homestay Students School Orientation - 3pm
- 29 Classes Begin - Opening Worship at 8:05 am

## September

- 2 Picture Day - all students and staff for photo ID
- 5 Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
- 9 Last day to change schedules/courses for Semester 1
- 12 Music Parents Organization (MPO) - 6pm
- 14 Parents' Night - 7-9pm
- 15 Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 21 Sports Day - 5pm
- 24 ACT Prep Class Session 1, 8am-Noon
- 25 Wildung Society Dinner, 5:30pm
- 28 Fall Sports Pictures  
General Board Meeting - 7:30pm
- 29 Grandparents' Day - 9:15am - Noon
- 30 Grandparents Day - 9:15am - Noon  
Picture Retake Day

## October

- 1 ACT Prep Class Session 2 - 8am-Noon
- 4 National College Fair (Juniors attend)
- 7 End of 6 Weeks grading period  
Homecoming Parade - 5:30pm  
Homecoming Football game - 7pm
- 8 Homecoming Dance - 7:30-11:30pm, Commons
- 10 Early Dismissal - 2:37pm, teacher work time
- 11 Grade School Soccer Semi-finals - 4pm
- 12 PSAT/NMSQT, PLAN, Explore Testing Day  
Early Dismissal - 12:15 for grades 9, 10, 11  
NO SCHOOL for SENIORS
- 13 Board of Regents - 7pm
- 14 Grade School Volleyball Tournament - 4pm  
Grade School Soccer Tournament - 7pm
- 15 ACT Prep Class Session 3 - 8am-12:30pm
- 16 HS Open House - 2-4:30pm  
MPO Chili/Pie Social - 4:30-6:30pm, Commons  
Music Department Fall Concert - 7pm, Gym
- 17 Early Dismissal - 2:37pm  
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 5-7:30pm
- 20 NO SCHOOL - Teachers' Conference
- 21 NO SCHOOL - Teachers' Conference
- 24 Dance Team begins  
Early Dismissal - 2:37pm  
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 5-7:30pm
- 25 Right Triangle Theater begins - 6:45 AM, Room 104
- 29 Twin City Elementary Public Speaking Meet at SCLHS
- 30 Twin Cities Area Reformation Festival Service - 4pm, Chapel
- 31 Girls Hockey begins

**Oct. 24-Nov.4 A+ Driving School Classes at SCLHS - 3-6pm**

### *Homestay Families Needed*

As the Lord continues to bless our international program with eager students, the SCLHS dormitories are full.

If you have room in your hearts and home for an international student (or 2), please contact International Advisor Mrs. Sue Galler at [sgaller@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:sgaller@StCroixSchools.org).

Whether for a short holiday stay or the academic year, your home can be part of our ministry to high school and middle school students from around the globe. A stipend is provided for hosting.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you may help!



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[www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org)

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