

November 2011

St. Croix  
Lutheran High School  
of West St. Paul



# ST. CROIX

*Informing Parents. Reaching Out to Friends.*

THE STUDENTS AND STAFF  
OF ST. CROIX LUTHERAN  
SCHOOLS INVITE YOU TO  
JOIN US FOR A

## VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM

*Celebrating America and honoring  
all who have served or are currently  
serving in the United States Armed  
Forces*

### Friday, November 11

9:00 a.m. – registration,  
coffee social

9:45 a.m. – Chapel  
- guests are invited

10:15 a.m. – ceremony in  
gymnasium

#### Guest Speaker:

LUKE TEMBREULL  
SCL CLASS OF 2002  
US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD,  
SERVED IN IRAQ 2005-07

Color Guard  
Patriotic Music by  
Crusader Band and Choirs

*All are welcome!*

*Veterans and families, please register by  
calling 651.455.1521, x101.*

1200 Oakdale Avenue  
West St. Paul

## NOTES FROM PRINCIPAL GIBSON

### Happy Thanksgiving!

The month of November and the Thanksgiving holiday allow us time to reflect on the gifts God has given to us. At St. Croix we are most thankful for the families who make up the St. Croix family. As parents, you have given us the opportunity to share with your child(ren) the knowledge they need to prepare them for a life of service as adults and an eternal life with their Lord. What a great blessing and responsibility that is! It is not one that we take lightly, nor is it one from which we shy away. In fact, it's one we relish.

As principal I can't imagine another job I could have that would be so invigorating and enjoyable. So thank you, parents, and thank you, Lord, for allowing us to be part of the St. Croix family.

### Veterans' Day Program – November 11

St. Croix has a new tradition of honoring our military veterans by hosting veterans for a program and ceremony during the school day on Veterans Day (Friday, Nov. 11). On that day we have an additional "tradition," which really makes a statement to our visitors. The students are asked to dress up to show their respect. Please encourage your child(ren) to dress up on November 11 according to these simple guidelines:

Boys – Shirt and tie would be great; minimum is nice slacks (no jeans) and a shirt with collar (no tee shirts).

Girls – Modest dress or skirt and blouse/sweater would be great; minimum is nice slacks (no jeans) and a nice top (no tee shirts).

Thanks for helping us make this a special day for our guests. Parents and friends are also invited to attend; detailed information is printed to the left of this article.

### Concerning Our Mascot

Last year at this time parents were informed of the creation of a Mascot Study committee. The committee is nearing the completion of its study, which included surveying current parents and students, faculty and staff, and alumni. I want to thank all of you who responded to the survey. The committee will report its findings to the whole St. Croix family when the study is completed.

### Dealing with the Influences of our World

It has been an exciting few months around St. Croix. We were able to add new courses to the curriculum, and many students are taking advantage of them. Students came to school to find that the biology room had undergone a complete renovation and the maintenance shop had been converted to the Applied Technologies classroom. The school year began with a record enrollment. Student leaders have taken on the home-room curriculum and made it much more interesting and effective for the student body. Our students are showing their talents on the stage, in the fall music concert, and on the

## *National Choral Fest Concerts at MLC*

Over 400 WELS area Lutheran high school students from 28 high schools – including the Croix-aliers, St. Croix's select music ambassadors – will perform a wide range of choral music in two concerts at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN for the 2011 National WELS Choral Festival.

The public is invited to two concerts guaranteed to be entertaining and uplifting.

### **Friday, November 11**

#### *Pops Concert 7pm*

featuring performances  
by all 28 individual choirs

### **Sunday, November 13**

#### *Sacred Concert 2pm*

featuring three combined  
choirs and mass choir  
performances

The concerts are free and open to the public. A free-will donation will be collected.

## **STUDENT/PARENT DIRECTORY**

*The Student/Parent Directory is published and available to any SCLHS family. Parents may stop by the front office to pick one up or call the office and request that it be sent home with your student.*

*The directory lists all current SCLHS families, student(s) name with address and phone numbers. Members of the Parent Pledge Network are also identified in the directory.*

athletic fields and courts. Homecoming week gave the students a chance to show their unity and school spirit.

Yet even Christian high schools have to deal with the temptations that are put in front of our students. Since the 1960's, the American drug culture has made the use of "recreational" drugs seem like something that is harmless and enjoyable. Our students come under the assault of that culture. At St. Croix we work as a team with parents to help our students deal with these influences. In Bible classes, health classes, and science classes the students are taught why drugs can be harmful, why some are illegal, and why it is sinful to abuse one's body with drugs. The students are taught how to react to temptations in a God-pleasing way.

As a matter of enforcement, the Dean of Students will occasionally do locker searches. Over the years we have brought in drug-sniffing dogs whose handlers alert us if there is anyone who might be coming into contact with those who use drugs.

As partners in the Christian education of your child, we ask that you continue to be vigilant for your child's well-being and safety. We want to maintain open communication with parents and students who may have concerns about the behaviors of their children or others. You are encouraged to contact Mr. Weihing or Mr. Gibson if you have any questions. As we work together, our Lord will continue to bless the St. Croix family in its effort to train the "whole student."

---

## **MASTER SITE PLAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO BEGIN**

The St. Croix Lutheran High School Association General Board met on Wednesday, September 28, for its fall semi-annual meeting. The major item of business at the meeting was to consider a recommendation to begin a capital fundraising campaign to pursue the school's master site plan.

The three-phased plan begins with construction of a new 154 bed dormitory, followed by a remodeling project of the current girls' dormitory into space for a new music and drama rehearsal center. The plan concludes with remodeling of the current music rehearsal area into a team locker room and expanded weight/fitness area, and construction of a new activity center and new front entrance to the school. The proposed cost of the entire plan is estimated to be \$15 million.

After considering the reports and funding plans shared by the administration and Board of Regents, and discussion of the motion in a question and answer session, the General Board unanimously passed the motion.

In the upcoming months the capital fundraising campaign will get underway. Indications are that the first phase of the project (the construction of a new dormitory that will increase our on-campus housing capabilities by 50 students) can begin as soon as \$2.5M is raised. It is hoped that this money will be raised in time for construction to commence in the spring of 2013, and for the new dorm to open to students in January of 2014.

As St. Croix has relied upon God's grace and blessings in the past to sustain and grow this ministry to young people and their families, so we pray for God's continued blessings upon these ambitious plans.

*President Gene Pfeifer, PhD*

---

## **STAFF POSITION OPEN**

St. Croix is seeking an Assistant Director of Mission Advancement. The Assistant Director of Mission Advancement will have the responsibility for managing Mission Advancement office (MAO) staff and activities in the context of the MAO operational plan,

Connect with St. Croix!

[www.Facebook.com/  
StCroixLutheran](http://www.Facebook.com/StCroixLutheran)

### *Mentor & Student Event*

*The Autumn new international student and American mentor activity is just around the corner. We'll have a badminton tournament in the gym on Tuesday, November 8, beginning at 5pm in the commons. A pizza dinner is provided.*

*Mark it on your calendar. This is a required activity for new international students, and will be a lot of fun!*

### **SPEECH TEAM NEEDS JUDGES & ASST. COACH**

An assistant coach for St. Croix's award-winning speech team is needed. The season is January through April, and practices are scheduled from 3:15 - 5:30 daily.

Adults are also needed as judges at the speech meets on select Saturdays during February-April. No experience necessary! These are paid positions.

If interested, please contact Speech Coach, Mrs. Kuznicki.

[ekuznicki@stcroixschools.org](mailto:ekuznicki@stcroixschools.org).

including all appeals, events, Crusader Corps, and the administrative functions of the MAO. This person will help to prioritize, educate, cultivate and solicit donors for gifts that will assist St. Croix in meeting current and future financial needs.

A detailed job description is available at [www.stcroixschools.org/supportstcroix](http://www.stcroixschools.org/supportstcroix). Interested parties can contact Greg Schuyler, Director of Mission Advancement at 651-455-1521 x 113 or [gschuyler@stcroixschools.org](mailto:gschuyler@stcroixschools.org).

---

## **STUDENT TEACHERS AT SCLHS**

Three students from Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN are currently interning under the supervision of St. Croix faculty. Ms. Jamie Eternick from Waterloo, WI is majoring in physical education and elementary education, minoring in coaching, and is teaching 9th girls PE, 10th girls PE and Health, and Fit for Life. She is engaged and planning a summer 2012 wedding.

Mr. Michael Allard of Milwaukee, WI, also majors in K-12 PE and elementary education with a coaching minor, and leads 9th and 10th boys physical education classes and Fit for Life. Ms. Eternick and Mr. Allard both enjoy keeping active with sports.

Mr. Michael Marsh of Menomonee Falls, WI, is a 5-year student majoring in elementary and secondary math. He is teaching geometry and advanced math with Mr. Jon Harley. Mr. Marsh has a dog named Cassie, and he enjoys solving sudoku puzzles, playing basketball and piano.

Welcome to SCLHS! May God bless your time here as you prepare for your public ministry.

---

## **BLOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 17**

The SCLHS Chapter of the National Honor Society is hosting a Red Cross blood drive on campus on Thursday, November 17, 2011, 8am to 1pm.

Parents and friends are encouraged to participate. To make an appointment, please contact Paul Weihing at 651-455-1521, ext. 119, or [pweihing@stcroixschools.org](mailto:pweihing@stcroixschools.org).

Students who are 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to donate blood. Students who are 16 years old and meet the weight requirement may donate with written parental consent.

---

## **ATHLETICS DEPT BENEFITS FROM BOUTIQUE**

The annual Festival of Seasons Boutique crafts and bake sale sponsored by the Crusader Volunteers will be held on Saturday, November 12, 9 am to 4 pm. The Boutique promises a wide variety of quality handmade crafts, art, baked goods, food, and entertainment, with many new vendors! Come -- and bring a friend!

Remember St. Croix crafters, again this year there will be a booth to sell items donated by parents and friends. If you have a craft or hobby at home such as knitting, making jewelry, ceramics etc., and could donate an item or two that you have made to the craft booth, that would be much appreciated. Last year this parents' booth made over \$500, and it would be great to see that happen again this year!

Please bring your items to the school office by Friday, November 11, so pricing and booth setup can be done at the end of the day.

The Festival of Seasons benefits the athletic department and athletes in ALL sports.

## Thank You from Class of 2013

The Juniors thank their parents and peers for all the generous support of the Homecoming fundraising events.

Thanks to the donations of time, talents, and treasures to prepare and sell the concessions and baked goods, the event was a wonderful success!

**Thank you for your awesome support!**

## CHRISTMAS HOSTS NEEDED

Would you like to share your Christmas holiday with someone who needs a temporary "home away from home?"

SCL has many international students who need a host family over our Christmas break, December 22 through January 2, so please prayerfully consider this opportunity.

If you can help, please contact Sue at [sgaller@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:sgaller@StCroixSchools.org) or (651) 455-1521 x 118. A stipend is awarded for hosting students.

For more information on what it means to host an international student, go to our website at [www.stcroixschools.org](http://www.stcroixschools.org) and click on the Student Life & Activities tab, international, student hosting.

Parents of all athletes are asked to donate homemade baked goods for the bake sale. Please label all donated items (example: sugar cookies, pumpkin bread, etc.). To give the committee adequate time to prepare the items for sale, please bring your baked goods during the following times: Friday, November 11, 7:30 am-3:30 pm (office hours) or Saturday, November 12, before 8 am.

---

## WINTER SPORTS INFORMATION

The winter sports season starts soon. Before an athlete may begin practice, he/she must have on file in the school office the 2011-12 Minnesota State High School League eligibility form and record of a current physical exam that indicates clearance for sports. Coaches will not let a student participate until this requirement is fulfilled. If your student submitted the form to participate in a fall sport, it is still on file and does not need to be duplicated.

Parents are needed for selling admission and staffing the concessions stand during home athletic events. A listing of those dates and times will be published soon. We ask parents of athletes to volunteer for two shifts during the winter season, so please contact the school office early!

Family and individual season passes will again be available for purchase at the first few games for each sport.

---

## CHILDREN'S THEATRE NOVEMBER 19 & 20

SCL's Drama Department will present *Jack and the Giant Beanstalk* by Linda Daugherty. This year's production offers a dramatization of the classic tale of a boy whose bag of magic beans surprises everybody. Young Jack, his father having been lost at sea ten years earlier, lives alone with his mother. The two have barely enough money to scrape by, but they manage. That becomes more difficult, however, when the impetuous and impressionable young Jack meets a fast-talking peddler who spins a tale of a blue-eyed stranger and his magic beans. The peddler's description of the stranger sounds much like Jack's lost father. Could he still be alive somewhere? And those beans, those magic beans – they are so enticing.

Unable to resist, Jack trades their cow and all the money he and his mother have for those beans. Though his mother is certain he has foolishly allowed himself to be swindled, Jack plants the beans and the next day finds a giant beanstalk that disappears into the clouds. What could possibly be up there? The answers will be revealed in performances at SCLHS on Saturday, November 19 at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday, November 20 at 2pm.

Admission is \$1 for children through eighth grade, \$3 for high school students, \$4 for senior citizens and \$5 for adults. Tickets are available at the door.

The play is directed by Mr. Tom Hansen, English & Drama Instructor.

---

## BASKETBALL SEASON INFO

**Girls Basketball Parent Meeting** – Tuesday, November 8, at 6pm, with head coach Mr. Dave Mielke.

Freshman Girls Basketball practice – Tuesday, November 8 at 3:15-5:00 pm

All HS Girls Basketball begins on Monday, November 14 at 3:15pm  
- tryouts are on November 15 and 16

## Parents of Seniors:

**Senior photos** are due on Monday, December 19, for the 2012 Yearbook. Seniors may submit a wallet size digital photo (head shot is preferred) or a printed copy.

Contact Mrs. Grev if you have any questions.

[rgrev@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:rgrev@StCroixSchools.org)

If you plan to purchase an “**Ad for Grad**” for your senior student, remember that deadline is also Monday, December 19!

Details are available at

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

## CAREER DAY NOV 9

All high school students will participate in Career Day on November 9, 12:20 – 3pm, by attending 5 sessions of their choice to learn about careers and career choices from parents and alumni.

For more information, contact Guidance Director Dave Huebner.

## *Financial Aid Session for Seniors and Parents*

### **Monday, December 5, 7pm**

A college financial aid representative from Bethany Lutheran College will be at St. Croix on December 5 at 7 pm to assist parents and students in filling out the FAFSA (federal financial aid) form and to answer questions about college financial assistance programs.

Senior students will receive a letter in the mail about this event, but please mark your calendars to save the date. Parents of juniors and underclassmen are also welcome to attend.

Two scrimmages are scheduled before conference play begins:

Saturday, November 19 at South Saint Paul (Varsity only) (Time TBD)

Tuesday, November 22 at Cottage Grove (JV and Varsity) (Time TBD)

**Boys Basketball Parent Meeting** - Tuesday, November 8 at 7pm. Mr. Lucas Boehm is head coach for boys' basketball. Parents of any boys trying out for the high school teams should attend this meeting.

Freshmen boys who are interested in trying out for basketball should note that tryouts will begin November 16, 17, and 18 (6:00-7:30 pm) and will continue November 21, 22, and 23 (3:00-5:15 pm) with all other grades.

All HS team members will practice beginning on Monday, November 21. Sophomore, junior, and senior boys should plan on 6:30-7:30 am workouts, as well as after school that week.

Scrimmages are being scheduled and will be announced soon - please check the website calendar often.

**Open Gym times:** Girls only – Nov. 1 and 3, 3-5:00 pm

Boys only – Nov. 14-18, 6-7:30 pm

All – Nov. 14, 6-8:00 pm

---

## **SCHOOL CLOSING NOTICE**

Winter weather is upon us. For snow emergencies and other school closing information for SCL High School and Middle School, please listen to radio station WCCO (830 AM) , television reports on channel 4 (WCCO), channels 5 and 45 (KSTP), channel 9 (KMSP) or channel 11 (KARE).

Please note that if the West St. Paul School District #197 is closed, St. Croix will automatically be closed also. Closings will also be posted on the schools' home pages at [www.stcroixschools.org](http://www.stcroixschools.org) as early as possible.

Since St. Croix's student body represents many school districts, we also consider the decisions of those districts. Because the safety of our students is always the deciding factor, parents make the final decision if their students are driving to school.

Deciding when it is necessary to close the school is an inexact science at best. It is also generally not a very popular decision, so we ask for everyone's cooperation as we enter another winter season. Thank you.

---

## **FOOD DRIVE DURING NOVEMBER**

The Girl's Bible Study group, led by Mrs. Shoop, is sponsoring a Thanksgiving food drive for the Pilgrim Lutheran Church food shelf beginning on Tuesday, November 1. The collection will run until Wednesday, November 23, the last day before Thanksgiving break. If you wish to donate please select items from the following list. All donations will be collected in the school's main office. Thank you for your generous support!

- Cereal
- Applesauce
- Pasta
- Boxed dessert mixes
- Canned fruit
- Canned meat: tuna, chicken, ham
- Pork and beans
- Peanut butter

## REGISTER FOR NCAA ELIGIBILITY

Any student who plans to participate in college athletics at a Division I or II college or university should register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

This ensures that you could qualify for athletic scholarships and is typically done at the beginning of a student's junior year.

See the Guidance Office if you have questions.

## PLAN AHEAD FOR AP COURSES

St. Croix offers Advanced Placement (AP) classes in calculus (AB and BC), physics, world languages, English literature, psychology and biology.

Any student interested in taking AP courses may register with permission or recommendation of their advisor, after completing any prerequisites. There is no additional charge to enroll in AP classes, but there is a fee for the AP exam.

Students who complete an AP course have the option to pay a fee to take a comprehensive exam given in May by the College Board. Instructors inform their students in February and March of the deadline for registering for these tests.

Successful completion of an AP test, usually a score of 3 or above, may result in college credit, depending on the college's specific requirements.

Anyone interested in enrolling in an AP course should first speak with their advisor, Academic Dean Mr. Todd Russ, or Registrar Mr. Casey Pufahl.

- Jelly
- Ketchup
- Boxed pudding, jello
- Boxed potatoes
- Boxed dressing mixes
- Spaghetti sauce in glass jars
- Canned soups (please, no tomato)
- Healthy packaged snacks: Granola bars, fruit snacks
- Packaged, dried pasta or rice with cream sauces, etc.
- Macaroni and cheese

---

## CRUSADER FOR A DAY - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

On December 2, St. Croix will **not** hold regular classes. All students except 8th graders are excused from school as the faculty hosts about 200 8th graders from the SCLHS Association elementary schools and area grade and middle schools for "Crusader for a Day." This day is designed to let next year's freshmen class experience life at St. Croix High. If your child's school is not attending and you would like to have her/him attend, please contact Wendy Gatzke at 651.455.1521 x121, [wgatzke@stcroixschools.org](mailto:wgatzke@stcroixschools.org).

**Service Day for HS Students:** St Croix's administration and faculty are asking **all students** to make December 2 a day of service by volunteering in their church, school, neighborhood, or community. Some students are needed at SCL as group leaders for the visitors; see Mr. Gibson to sign up.

Join us in encouraging your student to serve their former grade school or church by spending this Friday afternoon there, as teacher's aides, cleaners, or office help. Please tell your church or school staff that your student would like to volunteer that day, or contact St. Croix's office at [jlemke@stcroixschools.org](mailto:jlemke@stcroixschools.org) or 651.455.1521 x123. Service hours credit is available for volunteer hours-check [www.stcroixschools.org/forms](http://www.stcroixschools.org/forms).

---

## RECRUITERS ON CAMPUS

The Guidance Office will host the following recruiters in November:

- |                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>November 3</b>  | 10:30am - U of Minn, Duluth        |
|                    | 12:30pm - UW Stout (Menomonie, WI) |
| <b>November 10</b> | 2:00pm - Wartburg (Waverly, IA)    |
| <b>November 22</b> | all day - U of Minn, Morris        |

Students interested in visiting with any representatives should see Mrs. Gatzke or Pastor Huebner for a pass.

---

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November

- 1-4** A+ Driving Class - 3-6pm, Room 113
- 9** Career Information Day, 12:20 - 3pm
- 10** Meet the Principal - 8th grade parents, 7pm
- 11** Veterans Day Program - 9-11am, Chapel and Gym  
WELS Choral Festival Pops Concert - 7pm, MLC, New Ulm
- 12** Festival of Seasons Boutique - 9am-4pm, Commons and Gym  
Elementary Forensics Meet - West Lutheran HS
- 13** WELS Choral Festival Sacred Concert - 2pm, MLC, New Ulm
- 14** Girls Basketball and Boys Hockey begin  
Music Parents Organization Meeting - 6pm,
- 17** Red Cross Blood Drive (NHS) - 8am-1pm, Gym  
Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm

- 18 End of 12 Weeks  
Early Dismissal - 2:37 pm
- 19 "Jack and the Giant Beanstalk" - 2pm and 7pm, Auditorium
- 20 "Jack and the Giant Beanstalk" - 2pm, Auditorium
- 21 Wrestling and Boys Basketball begin
- 24-25 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

**December**

- 2 NO SCHOOL - Crusader for a Day - 8th graders at SCL  
Student Service Day for SCL students
- 5 College Financial Aid Info Meeting - 7pm
- 7 Winter sports pictures day
- 8 Christmas Recital - 6:30pm, Chapel
- 15 Early dismissal - 2:09pm - Concert Rehearsal, Gym  
Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 16 Early dismissal - 2:09pm - Concert Rehearsal, Gym
- 17 High School Christmas Concert - 7pm, Gym
- 19 Semester Test Day - Dismissal 12:20pm  
Senior Photos & Ads for Grads Deadline  
Middle School Christmas Concert - 6:30 pm
- 20 Semester Test Day - Dismissal at 12:20pm
- 21 Semester Test Day - Dismissal at 11:00 am

**Dec. 22 - January 3, 2012 - NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break**

**January**

- 4 Classes resume - 8:05am  
Speech Team begins
- 13 End of Semester 1  
Early Dismissal - 2:37 pm, Teacher work time
- 16 NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day  
Faculty In-Service
- 19 Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 25 MPO Meeting - 6pm  
General Board Meeting - 7:30pm
- 28 Last day to change Semester 2 schedule
- 30 TriMetro Conference Fine Arts Festival at St. Anthony

**Convenient Holiday Shopping at SCLHS  
Festival of Seasons Craft Boutique**

**Saturday, November 12, 9am - 4pm**

**Free Admission and Free Parking!**

*Hundreds of unique crafts and gift items!*

*Proceeds benefit SCLHS Athletic Department. Supported by  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.*

**MUSIC PARENTS ORGANIZATION  
SPONSORS FUNDRAISER**

Parents of music students (choirs, band, Croixaliers) will sell certificates for Baker's Square pies through Friday, December 2, and at the Festival of Seasons Boutique. Contact Barb at 651-455-1521, x 128 or [bbacker@stcroixschools.org](mailto:bbacker@stcroixschools.org) for info or to order.

Certificates are \$15 each, good any time at any Baker's Square for one pie valued at \$10.99-14.99, with \$5.00 per certificate being a tax-deductible donation to MPO.

Funds raised are designated for Music Department projects, including additional musical instruments and new staging platforms and skirting.

Purchase your holiday pies, and use certificates as gifts for friends, colleagues, teachers, coaches, or stocking stuffers!

*Your continued generous support of the Music Department is appreciated!*



1200 Oakdale Avenue  
West St. Paul, MN 55118-2601  
P 651.455.1521 F 651.451.3968  
[www.StCroixSchools.org](http://www.StCroixSchools.org)

**Gene Pfeifer**, PhD., President  
[gpfeifer@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:gpfeifer@StCroixSchools.org)

**Richard Gibson**, Principal  
[rgibson@StCroixSchools.org](mailto:rgibson@StCroixSchools.org)