

January 2011

St. Croix
Lutheran High School
of West St. Paul

@ST. CROIX

Informing Parents. Reaching Out to Friends.

The St. Croix
family wishes you a
very
Happy New Year!

SCLHS GENERAL BOARD MEETING JANUARY 25

The General Board of St. Croix Lutheran High School will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, at 7:30 pm in the St. Croix Chapel.

The meeting is open to all members of the St. Croix family: parents, faculty, and association church members.

Board members are elected or appointed by each congregation in the SCLHS Association to represent their church members in making decisions and selecting the Board of Regents for the high school.

If you don't know who your SCL General Board members are, please ask your pastor or congregation leaders.

THE ANGELS STILL SING! FROM PRINCIPAL GIBSON

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."** – Luke 2:13-14

At Bethlehem that first Christmas night there was one group that knew all about the holy Child. The shepherds were wondering. Mary was learning. But the angels from the realms of glory knew the meaning and purpose of that holy night.

And they sang! They had no anxious fears or lingering doubts. They knew that after the long years of waiting, God's plan was working out – as it always does. They knew that the Child, now forgotten in a manger and soon to die on a Cross, had come to bring all people the forgiveness of sins and peace with God.

And so they sang! The angels sang before the smallest audience in their history, but they knew, too, that behind the shepherds who were huddled by their fire in the Judean hills, there was a great crowd of men and women, beyond measure and numbering, who would find in the Child a new song and an everlasting hope.

And so the angels sang! They are still singing. Our task this Christmas and New Year is to hear them sing again...above the noise and the darkness of our time...above sin and shame. The stars of Christmas shine as soon as it is dark enough, and the angels sing as soon as we are quiet enough. And when we have become still with the peace of God, we can join them in their song this New Year!

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, made clean and new,
A quiet chamber kept for you.

- adapted from a devotion by O. P. Kretzmann

BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATES FROM PRESIDENT PFEIFER

Mascot Study - The review of St. Croix's use of the Crusader mascot remains in study at this time by a committee headed by Principal Gibson. The group was charged to examine the positives of maintaining the mascot, as well as potential negative effects the use of the Crusader mascot could have on public relations among our community and international constituents.

While the committee has received a good amount of survey data from alumni, parents, students, and supporters, they await more substantive feedback from a sampling of

Math Students Excel

After three contests in the Minnesota Math League, junior Rebecca H. is St. Croix's top scorer. SCL's team holds 4th place out of the 30 Minnesota teams in the league.

In the MLC Meet Math for grades 11-12, top scorers are Lila C., Matt H. and Rebecca H. SCL is currently in 3rd place in the large school division.

In MLC Meet Math for grades 9-10, SCL's top scorers are Roger Z., Isaac K. and Riley H., and the team is currently in second place in large school division.

Congratulations!

WINTER PEP BAND PERFORMANCES

The Pep Band will play for several home boys and girls basketball games. Please watch daily announcements and check the online calendar for specific dates.

Band members are asked to meet in the Music Room at 6:15 and begin playing at 6:30pm.

Students are to wear a red SCL t-shirt.

international partners and local community representatives. When all views have been expressed, the committee will share its findings and implications with the Board of Regents.

Anniversary Mural - Work on the St. Croix 50th graduation anniversary mural continues. The piece was commissioned to honor the 2,900 alumni of St. Croix and all who helped to support this ministry over its first 54 school years. Artist Jason Jaspersen continues work on the 15' x 5' piece from his studio in New Ulm.

The piece will be hung in our school entry hallway and is designed to symbolize five major themes that distinguish an education at St. Croix Lutheran. A group of St. Croix staff had opportunity to see progress on the piece in the fall, and it is quite impressive. It is sure to convey the themes of the mission and ministry that have taken place here over these many years.

Capital Campaign Begins - This past fall the St. Croix General Board authorized the school to begin a capital fundraising campaign as we pursue a three-phased master site plan. The first phase of the plan is to construct a new dormitory with capability to house 154 students. Phase two is designed to re-purpose and renovate the existing girls' dormitory into a new music and drama rehearsal facility. The final phase of the plan calls for the remodeling and expansion of locker rooms and fitness areas, as well as the construction of a second gymnasium. Presently, the fundraising campaign is in its organizational phase. Continue to watch for updates on the campaign and ways in which you can support it in the coming months.

2012-13 Staffing Update - Recently, the Board of Regents placed a call to Mr. Joel Burmeister to permanently refill our need for a math instructor. We are pleased to announce that in December Mr. Burmeister accepted our position and plans to join our faculty next summer. Currently, he serves as math instructor at Arizona Lutheran Academy in Phoenix. We thank God for answering our prayers and guiding Mr. Burmeister to St. Croix. Principal Gibson and Director of Academics Todd Russ continue to assess our faculty needs for the 2012-13 school year.

Annual Fund Update - The raising of non-budgeted funds for the 2011-12 Annual Fund project dedicated to the renovation of the school's physical science lab continues to move forward. Through mid-December, almost \$20,000 has been raised. Our goal for this project, however, is to raise \$125,000. The renovation of the physical science classroom marks the third project of our overall four-phased goal to renovate our science labs. Watch for further details in the coming months on how you can support this project aimed at improving the educational lives of our students.

ONE ACT PLAY IN PRODUCTION

You are invited to attend a free performance of the one act play on Wednesday, January 25, 7 p.m., in St. Croix's auditorium. The drama/comedy, *Variations on a Theme* by Ed Monk, follows Nick as he imagines several different train station encounters with his girlfriend Meg following a huge fight about trying a long-distance relationship.

The cast includes ten students and the play is directed by Mr. Jeff Strehlow.

Recruiters at SCL in January

Bethany Lutheran College
- Jan 18, all day

STUDENT COUNCIL SPONSORS MISSION PROJECT

SCLHS Student Council is collecting donations to benefit the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM). The goal for fundraising is \$4,000 by the end of the school year.

Recently, Mrs. Linda Liesener shared a presentation with the students and faculty during Chapel.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in locations in Malawi and mobile clinics in Zambia, the nurses and missionaries of CAMM serve thousands of people each year with health education and medical care, as well as Scriptural education and worship services.

CAMM is fully supported by donations, and is not funded by the WELS world missions budget.

The Student Council has hosted a variety of events to raise funds for this mission project, including selling "dress down" passes, donuts and coffee/cocoa, and collections during Chapel.

Students and parents are encouraged to continue donating to this SCLHS mission project.

For more information on the Central Africa Medical Mission, visit www.CentralAfricanMedicalMission.info.

TEENS FOR LIFE MARCH AT STATE CAPITAL

The St. Croix chapter of Teens for Life will march at the Capitol Building on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision on January 23, 2012.

Members of Teens for Life will also create displays at school commemorating the loss of life every day to abortion.

SEMESTER 1 ENDS JANUARY 13

The last day of first semester is Friday, January 13, 2012. Students should make sure they have completed all course work and paid any fees or fines. Report cards will be mailed to parents by February 1.

As per the policy of SCLHS and its Board of Regents, any outstanding tuition payments or unpaid fees will prevent SCL from mailing semester grade reports. On our website: www.StCroixLutheran.org, click "online grades" in the left navigation column of the high school page and login with your student's ID and PIN.

REMINDER TO SENIORS

Check out the scholarship information that is posted in the cross hallway and Religion classroom, along with the scholarships listed at Naviance®. Click on www.StCroixSchools.org, academics > high school > guidance, for details and links to other scholarship opportunities.

Remember to check the bulletin board in the cross-hallway for recruitment dates, testing dates, and other college information.

THANKS FOR THE HOSPITALITY!

We extend sincere gratitude to those families who supported SCLHS's ministry by housing one or more of our international students over our Christmas break! It was wonderful to know that our students had good, Christian families to stay with over vacation.

Because our spring break is shorter than our Christmas break, fewer students are able to fly home overseas. More host families will be needed. Our 2012 spring break runs from March 19 to March 26. If you prefer to "get your feet wet" before you commit to a full vacation, arrangements could be made for a student to spend a weekend with your family or even just one night. Students often need a place to stay for just a day between dorm closure time and a departing flight.

To learn more about this program, please contact Mrs. Sue Galler, at 651-455-1521, x118, or check out Student Life & Activities > International > Student Hosting on our website, www.StCroixSchools.org.

DOES YOUR STUDENT HAVE CREDIT COMING?

Parents, your student(s) may have credit coming! Does your child help with Sunday school, VBS, ushering, Pioneers, church cleanups? Has he volunteered to collect litter or clean up a

COURSE CHANGE DEADLINE JAN. 27

The last day students are allowed to change second semester schedules is Friday, Jan. 27, 2012.

To request a course change, the student must bring \$15.00 (cash or check written to SCLHS) along with a signed letter from a parent to his or her academic advisor. The advisor will then process the appropriate paperwork.

FINANCIAL OFFICE REMINDER

Contact Sharee Horzewski at SHorzewski@StCroixSchools.org or 651-455-1521, ext 103 if you have any questions.

Senior transcripts will not be mailed if there is a balance due on their tuition account.

Don't let your tuition payments get behind. Late fees of \$25 per month will be assessed on all late payments! Tuition statements will be mailed around the 7th of each month.

Convenient and secure online payments can be made from the SCL High School website [www.StCroixLutheran.org] Click on the link in the left-side navigation bar to complete the form. Remember to click on "confirm" to complete the transaction.

Monthly automatic payments are also available.

park in your neighborhood? Did she work the blood drive at school or at your church or community center? Does he volunteer at the local library or food shelf or such?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions or your child has volunteered time and talents for similar activities, he or she has earned "service credits" which SCL will record on the official high school transcript. Many colleges look at these records along with the student's GPA during their selection process.

To receive credit for such service hours, the student MUST complete the form "Christian Service – School, Church, and Community" available at www.StCroixLutheran.org > student life & activities > forms, or from the Guidance Office. Instructions and examples of appropriate projects are on the form.

Obtain the necessary signatures and return the completed forms to Mrs. Gatzke, Guidance Secretary, for inclusion in your official transcript. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Huebner or Mrs. Gatzke.

FRESHMAN REGISTRATION DATES

Freshman registration dates are scheduled to coincide with other events at SCLHS. The dates are Monday, February 6, 6-8pm, and Monday, February 13, 6-7:30pm. During the grade school basketball tournament on Saturday, February 11, there will be an Open House & Tours (10am to 4pm), with registration taking place in the library (10am to 3pm).

If none of these times is convenient for you, please contact Mr. Gibson at rgibson@StCroixSchools.org to schedule an appointment with him directly.

AUCTION ACTION

Come take "A Walk in the Park" at St. Croix's 20th Annual Auction at Southview Country Club on Saturday, March 31. Proceeds will benefit current and future students through tuition assistance and renovation of the Physical Science room.

Doors will open at 5:00 p.m.

The evening features a catered meal, so admission tickets are necessary. The price is \$60 per person, which includes admission, the meal, and a tax-deductible donation to the school. Tickets will be available through the Mission Advancement Office, and online soon!

Donations of quality items are welcome for both the live and silent auctions. A Wish List is posted on the Auction website.

Volunteers are needed for acquisitions, publicity, setup, cleanup, and other tasks. If you are willing to help, please call Robyn in the Mission Advancement Office at 651-455-1521 x106 or e-mail at rswidorski@stcroixschools.org.

Please save the date and invite family and friends to attend! More information is available at www.StCroixLutheran.org/auction.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

- 27-29 Girls Basketball Tournament ([check www.StCroixLutheran.org/calendar](http://www.StCroixLutheran.org/calendar))
- 28-30 Boys Basketball Tournament at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato
- 31 New Year's Eve

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 2 Dorms open at Noon
- 4 Classes resume - 8:05am
Speech begins
- 13 End of 18 weeks/Semester 1
Early dismissal - 2:37pm
- 16 **NO SCHOOL** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Faculty In-Service
- 19 Board of Regents - 7pm
- 25 One Act Play Performance - 7pm, Auditorium
General Board Meeting - 7:30pm, Chapel
- 27 Last day to change Semester 2 schedules
- 28 One Act Play Subsections
- 31 TriMetro Fine Arts Festival - select students, St. Anthony Village HS

February

- 6 Freshman Registration - 6-8pm, Library
Grade School Basketball Night, Gym
- 7 American HS Math Exam
- 11 Grade School Basketball tournament, Gym
HS and MS Open House - 10am-4pm
Freshman Registration - 10am-3pm
- 12 Grade School Basketball tournament, Gym
- 13 Freshman Registration - 6-7:30pm
- 13-17 Snow Fest Week activities
- 16 Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 18 Snow Fest Dance (semi-formal) - 7:30-11:30pm
- 20 **NO SCHOOL** - Presidents' Day
- 22 Ash Wednesday
- 24 End of 24 weeks
- 25 Starlight Rehearsal
- 26 Starlight Variety Show
- Feb 27 - March 9, M-F A+ Driving Classes - 3-6pm

Like us on Facebook for the latest
information on events and activities
at SCLHS!

www.Facebook.com/StCroixLutheran



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