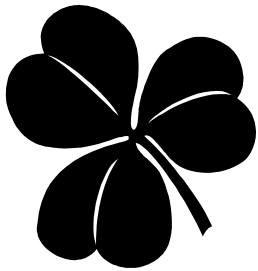


**Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran
Church**

March 2004



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The Church Door

The "Church Door" title is taken from the "Theses Door" of the Castle Church which has made Wittenberg so famous.

Just as the "Theses Door" was used as a bulletin board for notices in Luther's time, this newsletter can also be used by our members to communicate with each other and to our guests about church events. Published monthly it is available the last Sunday of the month.

Please contact Cindy Borreson (616.846.2477 or cborreson@charter.net) to insert articles for next month's newsletter.

The Church Door

From the Pastor

There's a delightful Peanuts cartoon where Lucy says, "Life is like a deck chair. Some face theirs backwards and look at where they've been, some face it forwards so they can see where they are going, and some put it sideways so they can see where they are now." To which Charlie Brown says, "I can't even get mine unfolded."

When it comes to the Lenten discipline, some folks can't seem to get their deck chair unfolded. Lent is sort of a spectator "sport" as we are introspective to see where we are, retrospective to see from where we have come, and to speculate or to look ahead on the subject of Christ, his work and our response to him and his work. I think that we sometimes take Christ and his work and our relationship with him for granted. So come to our Lenten service and bring a deck chair if you must.

Please join us for our Wednesday evening soup suppers at 6:30 PM and for Worship at 7:15 as we make our journey through Lent together. The theme for this year's Lenten series is Luther's Small Catechism. Professor James Nestingen at Luther Northwestern

Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota suggests that the most appropriate time for preaching on the catechism is Lent, the traditional season of instruction when the catechumens used to be prepared for baptism. So during our 40 day journey through Lent we will examine a different portion of the Small Catechism each Wednesday. It will be a good time to refresh what you studied in Confirmation Class or perhaps to hear something new.

On Ash Wednesday we looked at Baptism. In the following weeks we will examine the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, Holy Communion, the Lord's Prayer and the Office of the Keys before entering Holy Week beginning April 4th. We do not meet on Wednesday of Holy week, but we do meet on Maundy Thursday and also on Good Friday.

Easter Sunday is April 11th this year. Please plan to attend and, although we are not hosting a Friendship Sunday, it is a good time to invite a friend or relative to come with you. Our youth will be preparing Easter

breakfast for us and I am sure you will want to support them with your presence for that meal.

I also want to thank all who were involved in the Friendship Sunday program February 15th. I have heard many positive comments from those who heard the songs and testimony of the members of the Teen Challenge choir. I especially thank the women of the Dorcas circle for hosting the meal and for agreeing to move the date of the meal a week earlier than the normal Transfiguration Sunday date to accommodate the Teen Challenge Choir.

I am sorry that I was taken ill and had to leave early. The doctor said I had vertigo, which he said is nearly always virus related and that it would pass. Thanks to the many who sent e-mails or called to see how I was doing. The vertigo really knocked me for a loop but it seems to have passed.

God's grace, mercy and peace to the saints at DML, Pastor Dennis

Dr. Martin Luther Church - Church Council Minutes Feb 9, 2004

IN ATTENDANCE: Gene Broge, Emogene Cotal, Jan Wolf, Stephen Hellman, Pastor Stroh, Betty Proksa and Gordon Eggleton. EXCUSED: Beulah Justian, Tom Whitehead and Cindy Borreson.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the December 8, 2003 Council Meeting presented in written form.

There was a question of the inspection certificate for the furnace.

Stephen will look into this.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Financial report for December were presented in written form. We will table the motion until we talk to Cindy about the report.

Checkbook Balance	-\$1,987.06
LB Money Market-Cash	\$2,334.04
Savings - Designated	\$5,758.19
Savings - Memorial	\$7,322.58
Savings - Reserve	\$4,819.06
Savings - Taxes	\$511.36
Cash Account	\$0.00
TOTAL CASH &	
BANK ACCOUNTS	<u>\$18,758.17</u>
<u>Designated Breakdowns</u>	
Evangelism	\$469.00
Eve Circle	\$2,176.50
Kitchen Fund	\$1,320.20
Men's Club	\$243.31
Roof Loan	\$1,858.00
Youth Group	\$145.39
TOTAL	<u>\$5,812.40</u>

PASTORS REPORT:

Sick and shut-In Calls: Gene Broge, Bea and Gordon Eggleton, Millie Fredrick, Ann Hulka, Mary Panozzo and Floyd Nickisch.

PASTORAL ACTIVITIES:

Stony Lake Conf meeting, took 3 DML members to see Gospel of John film, Mutual Ministry Committee, Met with Nathan Newman, Tom Whitehead and Randy Borreson, Evangelism Committee, Worship & Music Committee, Dorcas, Men's Club Breakfast.

PERSONAL ACTIVITIES: Thrivent Board Meeting.

ITEMS NEEDING ATTENTION: Tables need to be set up Thurs or Fri for Sunday meal. (Stephen will do this.) Wednesday Lent Music. (W&M Committee to talk to Nancy and Marcia)

Committee Reports

CHURCH PROPERTY: We have hired Nathan Newman as our new Sexton.

EVANGELISM: Worked on the planning for Friendship Sunday.

FINANCE REPORT: Met with Kent Johnson to discuss the investments of the money from the sale of the parsonage. The balances as of Tuesday, were:

Money Market fund	\$2,337.00
LB Income Fund (Bonds)	\$44,138.00
(=return of 8.08% for 2003, incl. Dividends)	
LB (Stocks)	<u>\$36,197.00</u>
(=return of 21.39% for 2003)	
Total	<u>\$82,672.00</u>

We had originally planned to have 60% of the investment in the bond fund and 40% in the stock fund for 2003, and then change it to 70% bonds, 30% stocks for 2004. We have made our withdrawals for Pastor's housing allowance from the bond fund during 2003. As a result of the withdrawals and the good returns on the stock fund, the funds are now distributed 55% in bond fund and 45% in stocks.

Kent's recommendations were:

1. Move money one month at a time from the investments to the money market fund, instead of 6 months' worth at a time, in order to let the money keep working for us.
2. Withdraw money from the LB Fund (Stocks) instead of the LB Income Fund (Bonds) since stocks are stronger now. Last year, bonds were stronger.
3. Don't change the ratio of allocations but let the withdrawals reduce the amount invested in the LB Fund.

We still want to get back to having 60%-70% in the LB Income Fund (bonds) but that can happen "automatically" if we make our withdrawals from the LB Fund (stocks). Finally, he recommended that we review the investments quarterly so that we can react if the market starts to change dramatically.

Tom also will be meeting with Diane on Tuesday for preschool.

PARISH EDUCATION: Working on project for Friendship Sunday.

SOCIAL MINISTRY: No report

STEWARDSHIP: No report

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: Planned Lenten Services and Friendship Sunday.

MUTUAL MINISTRY; Met at Nino's - nothing report.

DORCUS: Will be serving dinner on Friendship Sunday.

EVE: Will help the B I B L E Club with Friendship Sunday.

MENS CLUB: Will look into building a wheel chair ramp for Love Inc.

YOUTH GROUP: Steven reported they would like to divide the youths in two groups 5—13 and 14—21.

Would like to get something started.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Stephen and his wife will start a Spanish class. The proceeds to go to the church.

NEW BUSINESS: Jan ask to be excused for the March meeting. Steven would like to bring in a Christian Rock band or Comedian on a Saturday night, for the younger crowd. To be approved by Pastor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 P.M. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Betty Proksa,
Acting Council Secretary

Lessons & Hymns



March 7—Lent 2

Lessons

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

Hymns

Ent: 107—Beneath the Cross of Jesus
HD: 99—O Lord, throughout These Forty Days
Comm: 226—Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord
Close: 495—Lead On, O King Eternal



March 14—Lent 3

Lessons

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Hymns

Ent: 487—Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus
HD: 343—Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer
Comm: 197—O Living Bread from Heaven
Close: 358—Glories of Your Name Are Spoken

March 28—Lent 5

Lessons

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]

Hymns

Ent: #94 My Song is Love Unknown (1-4)
HD: 92 Were You There (v 1-3)
Comm: 94 Glory Be to Jesus
Close: 94 My Song is Love Unknown (5-7)



March 21—Lent 4

Blue Book Service

Lessons

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Hymns

Ent: #734 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling
HD: 731 Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Comm: 766 We Come to the Hungry Feast
Close: 660 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



Thank you!

- To the Dorcas Circle for organizing and preparing the Friendship Sunday Dinner. Everything was wonderful!
- To all those who assisted with the Friendship Dinner; preparing dishes to pass, setting up, cleaning up. Your help was very much appreciated.
- To Stephen and Adrianna Hellman for starting up the Youth Group(s). This is a very important ministry for our young people.
- To Nancy Gibson and Marcia Kitchka for volunteering to provide the music for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Services.

Do you know someone who has done something that we should show appreciation for? If so, please notify Cindy Borreson. We don't want anyone forgotten.

Worship Assistants

March 7

Deacon Bill Kitchka
Lector Ron Heiss
Acolyte Jonathan Stuthard
Nursery Bethani Eggleton
Ushers Mike Sellon
 Russ Tilden
Tellers Donna Whitehead
 Tom Whitehead
 Gordon Eggleton

March 14

Deacon Andrew Kitchka
Lector Dave Justian
Acolyte Eric Burke
Nursery Chelsea Eggleton
Ushers Emily Kitchka
 Bill Kitchka
Tellers Cindy Borreson
 Randy Borreson
 Polly Eagle

March 21

Deacon Tom Whitehead
Lector _____
Acolyte Bethani Eggleton
Nursery Nancy Johnson
Ushers Emogene Cotal
 Jan Wolf
Tellers Irene Borreson
 LaVern Borreson
 Bill Kitchka

March 28

Deacon Cindy Borreson
Lector _____
Acolyte Emily Johnson
Nursery Beulah Justian
Ushers John Moore
 Tom Proksa
Tellers Betty Proksa
 Tom Proksa
 John Moore

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
If you are unable to fulfill your
responsibility, please contact:

Deacons, Acolytes, & Tellers contact:
Cindy Borreson—616-846-2477

Lectors & Ushers contact:
Janet Wolf—(231) 739-7328

Nursery contact:
Jan Ward—(231) 739-7328



I said a prayer for you today
 And I know God must have heard,
 I felt the answer in my heart
 Although He spoke no word.
 I asked that He'd be near you
 At the start of each new day,
 To grant you health and blessings
 And friends to share the way.
 I asked for happiness for you
 In all things great and small,
 But it was His loving care
 I prayed for most of all.

Gene Broge
 Bea Eggleton
 Millie Fredrick
 Ann Hulka
 Patti McRoberts
 (Paul & Ada Filka's daughter &
 Previous member)
 Floyd Nickisch
 Mary Panozzo
 Jeannette Roach
 Judy Slezak
 (Irene Borreson's sister &
 previous member)
 Evelyn Stroh
 (Pastor's Mother)
 Charly Thomas
 (Beulah Justian's friend)



Do you have a loved one you
 would like included in the
 prayers or added to our
 prayer list? Please contact
 Cindy Borreson at
 616-846-2477 or by email
 at cborreson@charter.net
 and she will see they are
 included.

What's Happening at Dr. Martin Luther?

Dorcas Circle

Meetings continue on the 1st Monday of each month at 10:00 am.

See Irene Borreson or Ann Hamil for information.

EVE Circle

Eve Circle meets this month on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

They will be working on Easter Cards at the next meeting.

Contact Betty Proksa if you have any questions.

MEN'S CLUB

Breakfast Meetings the 1st Saturday of each month.

Contact Russ Tilden or Tom Whitehead with questions.

New Member Classes

If you are interested in attending, please see Pastor Dennis.

Be watching for meeting information on New Member (and Old Member) classes.

Lenten Services

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, we are holding weekly Lenten Services at DML on Wednesday night. Please join us as part of your faith journey during Lent. Remember to come early for the Soup Supper at 6:45 pm.

March 3—Theme: Apostles' Creed

6:45 pm Soup Supper

7:15 pm Worship Service

March 10—Theme: Lord's Prayer

6:45 pm Soup Supper

7:15 pm Worship Service

March 17—Theme: Ten Commandments

6:45 pm Soup Supper

7:15 pm Worship Service

March 24—Theme: Holy Communion

6:45 pm Soup Supper

7:15 pm Worship Service

March 31—Theme: Office of the Keys

6:45 pm Soup Supper

7:15 pm Worship Service

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A number of our committees meet on a regular basis and WELCOME participation by the congregation. If you would like to attend a committee meeting, please see the schedule below:

Evangelism—4th Monday at 6:30 pm

Finance—1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Parish Education—2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Worship & Music—3rd Saturday at 11:00 am

From our Members...

The Perfect Pastor

The perfect pastor preaches exactly 10 minutes.

He condemns sin roundly but never hurts anyone's feelings.

He works from 8 AM until midnight and is also the church janitor.

The perfect pastor makes \$40 a week, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates \$30 a week to the church.

He is 29 years old and has 40 years experience.

Above all, he is handsome.

The perfect pastor has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and he spends most of his time with the senior citizens.

He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his church.

He makes 15 home visits a day and is always in his office to be handy when needed.

The perfect pastor always has time for church council and all of its committees. He never misses the meeting of any church organization and is always busy evangelizing the unchurched.

The perfect pastor is always in the next church over!

If your pastor does not measure up, simply send this notice to six other churches that are tired of their pastor, too.

Then bundle up your pastor and send him to the church at the top of the list.

If everyone cooperates, in one week you will receive 1,643 pastors.

One of them should be perfect.

Have faith in this letter. One church broke the chain and got its old pastor back in less than three months.

~by Father McGinn~

Submitted by Darlene Boucher

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee."

The husband said, "You are in charge of The cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee."

Wife replies, "No you should do it, and besides it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee."

Husband replies, "I can't believe that, show me." So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and shows him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says...

"HEBREWS"

Submitted by LaVern Borreson

CHILDREN'S SERMON

One Easter Sunday morning as the minister was preaching the children's sermon, he reached into his bag of props and pulled out an egg.

He pointed at the egg and asked the children, "What's in here?" "I know" a little boy exclaimed.... "Pantyhose!"

THE TITHING

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates.

When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, "Don't pay for me Daddy. I'm under five!"

THE BLESSING

The Sunday School teacher asked, "Now, Johnny, tell me, do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," he replied, "We don't have to. My mom is a good cook!"

PALM SUNDAY

It was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches.

Johnny asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by." "Wouldn't you know it," he fumed, "I'm not there and he shows up!"

Submitted by Cindy Borreson

St. Patrick's Day

The person who was to become St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Wales about AD 385. His given name was Maewyn, and he almost didn't get the job of bishop of Ireland because he lacked the required scholarship.

Far from being a saint, until he was 16, he considered himself a pagan. At that age, he was sold into slavery by a group of Irish marauders that raided his village. During his captivity, he became closer to God.

He escaped from slavery after six years and went to Gaul where he studied in the monastery under St. Germain, bishop of Auxerre for a period of twelve years. During his training he became aware that his calling was to convert the pagans to Christianity.

His wishes were to return to Ireland, to convert the native pagans to Christianity. But his superiors instead appointed St. Palladius. But two years later, Palladius transferred to Scotland. Patrick, having adopted that Christian name earlier, was then appointed as second bishop to Ireland.

Patrick was quite successful at winning converts. And this fact upset the Celtic Druids. Patrick was arrested several times, but escaped each time. He traveled throughout Ireland, establishing monasteries across the country. He also set up schools and churches which would aid him in his conversion of the Irish country to Christianity.

His mission in Ireland lasted for thirty years. After that time, Patrick retired to County Down. He died on March 17 in AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

Much Irish folklore surrounds St. Patrick's Day. Not much of it is actually substantiated.

Some of this lore includes the belief that Patrick raised people from the dead. He also is said to have given a sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Of course, no snakes were ever native to Ireland, and some people think this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans. Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday.

One traditional icon of the day is the shamrock. And this stems from a more bona fide Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His

followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day.

The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, in Boston.

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Preparing to Deal with Memory Loss

A Three-Part Program Series for Alzheimer Caregivers

- | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| • Overview of Alzheimer's Disease | March 2, 2004 | 6:30—8:30 pm |
| • Financial and Legal Planning | March 9, 2004 | 6:30—8:30 pm |
| • Community Resources and Residential Care | March 17, 2004 | 6:30—8:30 pm |

Place: DeBoer's Hermitage Independent Living (Activity Center)
1750 Vulcan, Muskegon

There is a \$15 fee per session or \$40 for all three sessions; registration is required. For more information or to register, please call the Alzheimer's Association at 231.780.1922 or 800.337.3827.

Please see the notice on the bulletin board.



ST. PADDY'S TRICKY IRISH WORD PUZZLE



Find the hidden words. They are hiding, up, down across and sideways (stairways). The prize awarded for this game is that the Luck o' the Irish will be with you when you finish all 20 words.

S	L	V	T	I	R	E	L	A	N	D	W	E	E
H	M	I	S	T	A	L	V	A	S	O	K	I	Y
A	D	E	V	M	I	F	E	B	R	S	L	E	E
M	L	B	Y	E	N	D	D	E	E	Q	N	I	K
R	A	D	D	U	B	L	I	N	C	R	T	G	C
O	R	A	G	S	O	I	W	E	A	E	E	R	I
C	E	B	S	G	W	M	O	L	N	P	A	E	R
K	M	T	O	H	S	E	B	N	O	Q	O	E	T
K	E	T	L	E	P	R	E	C	H	A	U	N	A
P	O	O	Y	I	J	I	E	L	L	O	A	S	P
P	I	P	E	K	L	C	O	S	T	O	N	E	T
T	U	M	L	U	C	K	Y	R	Z	M	V	L	S
I	H	B	N	O	G	R	E	E	N	B	E	E	R
I	R	I	S	H	S	C	A	R	O	L	T	O	R

rainbow
stpatrick
blarney
shamrock

potogold
lucky
emerald
green

pub
elf
leprechaun
irish

limerick
mist
stone
clover

pipe
dublin
ireland
greenbeer

Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 29 Lent 1 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am	1 <i>George Herbert, priest, 1633</i>	2 Finance Com. 7 pm <i>John Wesley, 1791; Charles Wesley, 1788; renewers of the Church</i>	3 Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm	4 Bible Study 2 pm	5	6 Men's Club 9 am
7 Lent 2 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am <i>Perpetua and her companions, martyrs at Carthage, 202</i>	8 Dorcas Circle 10 am Council Mtg. 6:30 pm	9 Parish Ed 6:30 pm Eve Circle 7 pm	10 Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm	11 Bible Study 2 pm	12 <i>Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604</i>	13
14 Lent 3 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am	15 W & M Com. 7 pm	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm <i>Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, 461</i>	18 Bible Study 2 pm	19 <i>Joseph, guardian of our Lord</i>	20
21 Lent 4 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am	22 Evangelism Com. 7 pm <i>Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to the Am Indians, 1758</i>	23	24 Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm	25 The Annunciation of Our Lord Bible Study 2 pm	26	27 Mutual Ministry 9:00 am
28 Lent 5 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am	29 <i>Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the Church, 1824</i>	30	31 Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm <i>John Donne, priest, 1631</i>	April 1 Bible Study 2 pm	April 2	April 3 Men's Club 9 am

**Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

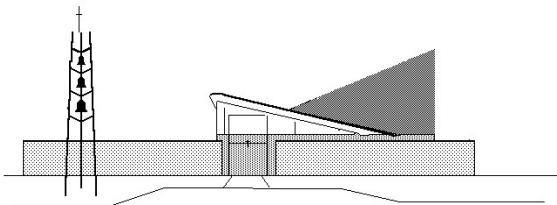
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

The Church Door

The Newsletter of Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2004

THE SEASON
of
Lent



Dr. Martin Luther Ev. Lutheran Church
1860 E. Hile Rd.
Muskegon, MI 49444

THE CHURCH DOOR
March 2004
The Season of Lent

