

Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran
Church

May 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 new news for DML is that we have our very own website and our own domain name! It is www.dmlc.org. It is not completely up and running as I write this, but I am hoping that this newsletter may be found there by the time the newsletter is published.

I recently visited with Eric Justian (and Julie and Oscar) to see the website he has developed for us. We have had a presence on the Internet since I have been at DML through the American Bible Society. Gene Broge and his grandson Andy did some work on it, but

the site is restrictive in terms of what we can do with it, not to mention the long address: <http://www.forministry.com/49444DMLLC>.

Now, thanks to Eric (and Jason) and Clockwork Logic we have a much more versatile website. And thanks to a generous donor (me and Lauren who paid for one year of hosting for DML) we have a functional website and presence on the Internet. Actually, the cost is not all that great and I was surprised when Eric told me how inexpensive it is for a web hosting service.

I am still considering what we can do with the site. One thing for sure is that we can publish our newsletter there and all who want to read it can do so. This would save immensely on copier and paper expenses, as well as reduce the amount of time that is needed to print, assemble and label the newsletter. We will strongly encourage those who require mailing of the newslet-

ter to read it on the Web instead, if they are able to do so. The savings in postage alone would cover the expense of the Web host.

We also have several e-mail boxes available which can be given to council members, perhaps having standard ones for committees. There are exciting possibilities as to what we can do with this Web page. When Eric gave me a tour of the site he showed me how easy it is to use. If you would like to be the web master to oversee the site or if you have some ideas on how to we can use the site, please let me know. You might visit other church websites and see what they are doing and how we might apply it to DML.

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the 21st century,
Pastor Dennis



The Church Door

Worship Assistants

May 2

Deacon Cindy Borreson
Lector Emily Kitchka
Crucifer Eric Burke
Nursery Polly Eagle
Ushers Mike Sellon
 Russ Tilden
Tellers Donna Whitehead
 Tom Whitehead
 Gordon Eggleton

May 9

Deacon Rose Justian
Lector _____
Acolyte Bethani Eggleton
Nursery Nancy Johnson
Ushers Emily Kitchka
 Bill Kitchka
Tellers Cindy Borreson
 Randy Borreson
 Polly Eagle

May 16

Deacon Andrew Kitchka
Lector _____
Acolyte Emily Johnson
Nursery Lauren Johnson
Ushers Emogene Cotal
 Jan Wolf
Tellers Irene Borreson
 LaVern Borreson
 Bill Kitchka

May 23

Deacon Bill Kitchka
Lector _____
Acolyte Andrew Kitchka
Nursery Beulah Justian
Ushers John Moore
 Tom Proksa
Tellers Irene Borreson
 LaVern Borreson
 Bill Kitchka

May 30

Deacon Tom Whitehead
Lector _____
Acolyte Matthew Kitchka
Nursery Rose Justian
Ushers _____
Tellers Emogene Cotal
 Janet Wolf

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

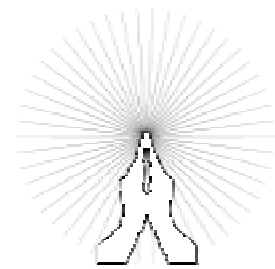
Nursery contact:
Jan Ward—(231) 739-7328

What does it matter how I pray, so long as my
 prayers are answered?

Sitting Bull

Gene Broge
 Bea Eggleton
 Millie Fredrick
 Jim Gibson
 Ann Hulka
 Margaret Hulka
 Mille Lussy
 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)
 Paul Suchovsky
 Lowell Tambling



Please contact
 Cindy Borreson at
 616-846-2477 or by email
 at cborreson@charter.net or
 Pastor Dennis to add a name
 to the Prayer List.

Lessons & Hymns



May 2 4th Sunday of Easter

Lessons

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Hymns

Ent: 210—At the Lamb's High Feast
We Sing
HD: 456—The King of Love My
Shepherd Is
Comm: 476—Have No Fear, Little Flock
Close: 145—Thine is the Glory

May 9 5th Sunday of Easter

Lessons

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Hymns

Ent: 363—Christ is Alive! Let Chris-
tians Sing
HD: 189—We Know That Christ is
Raised
Comm: 352—I Know that My Redeemer
Lives!
Close: 770—I Was There to Hear Your
Borning Cry



May 16 6th Sunday of Easter

Blue Book Service

Lessons

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29

Hymns

Ent: 718—Here in This Place
HD: 690—Shall We Gather at the
River
Comm: 766—We Come to the Hungry
Feast
Close: 673—I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted
Me



May 30 Day of Pentecost

Lessons

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:25-35, 37
Romans 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Hymns

Ent: 158—Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
HD: 364—Son of God, Eternal Sav-
ior
Comm: 460—I Am Trusting Lord Jesus
Close: 558—Earth and All Stars!

May 23 7th Sunday of Easter

Lessons

Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

Hymns

Ent: 752—I, the Lord of Sea and Sky
HD: 687—Gracious Spirit, Heed Our
Pleading
Comm: 684—Spirit, Spirit of Gentle-
ness
Close: 566—My Country, 'Tis of Thee



So who came up with the idea of honoring mothers nation-wide on the second Sunday in May?

EARLY CELEBRATIONS

Some historians claim that the predecessor of the Mother's Day holiday was the ancient spring festival dedicated to mother goddesses. In the ancient Greek empire the spring festival honored Rhea, wife of Cronus and mother of the gods and goddesses. In Rome the most significant Mother's Day-like festival was dedicated to the worship of Cybele, another mother goddess. Ceremonies in her honor began some 250 years before Christ was born. This Roman religious celebration, known as Hilaria, lasted for three days - from March 15 to 18!



ENGLAND'S MOTHERING SUNDAY

More like the modern celebration of Mother's Day is England's "Mothering Sunday", also called Mid-Lent Sunday, observed on the fourth Sunday in Lent. Some say the ceremonies in honor of Cybele were adopted by the early church to venerate the Mother of Christ, Mary. Others believe the Mother Church was substituted for mother goddess and custom began to dictate that a person visit the church of his/her baptism on this day. People attended the mother church of their parish, laden with offerings.

Also in England in the 1600's, young men and women who were apprentices or servants returned home on Mothering Sunday, bringing to their mothers small gifts like trinkets or a "mothering cake". Sometimes *furmety* was served - wheat grains boiled in sweet milk, sugared and spiced.

In northern England and in Scotland, the preferred refreshments were *carlings* - pancakes made of steeped pease fried in butter, with pepper and salt. In fact, in some locations this day was called Carling Sunday.

Another kind of mothering cake was the *simnel* cake, a very rich fruit cake. The Lenten fast dictated that the simnel cake had to keep until Easter. It was boiled in water, then baked, and was often finished with an almond icing. Sometimes the crust was of flour and water, colored with saffron.

INTEREST STARTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948) is credited with originating our Mother's Day holiday. She never married and was extremely attached to her mother, Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis was a minister's daughter who for 20 years taught Sunday School in the Andrews Methodist Church of Grafton, West Virginia. Miss Jarvis graduated from the Female Seminary in Wheeling, West Virginia, and taught in Grafton before moving to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with the rest of her family.

Anna Reese Jarvis died in Philadelphia in May of 1905. Still unmarried and left alone with her blind sister Elsinore, Anna missed her mother greatly. Two years after her mother's death (1907) Anna Jarvis and her friends began a letter-writing campaign to gain the support of influential ministers, businessmen and congressmen in declaring a national Mother's Day holiday. She felt children often neglected to appreciate their mother enough while the mother was still alive. She hoped Mother's Day would increase respect for parents and strengthen family bonds.

THE FIRST MOTHER'S DAY

The first Mother's Day observance was a church service honoring Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis, held at Anna Jarvis's request in Grafton, West Virginia, and in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1908.

Carnations, her mother's favorite flowers, were supplied at that first service by Miss Jarvis. White carnations were chosen because they represented the sweetness, purity and endurance of mother love. Red carnations, in time, became the symbol of a living mother. White ones now signify that one's mother has died.

OTHER MOTHER'S DAY OBSERVANCES

The first Mother's Day proclamation was issued by the governor of West Virginia in 1910. Oklahoma celebrated Mother's Day that year as well. By 1911 every state had its own observances. By then other areas celebrating Mother's Day included Mexico, Canada, China, Japan, South America and Africa. The Mother's Day International Association was incorporated on December 12, 1912, with the purpose of furthering meaningful observations of Mother's Day.

OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

The House of Representatives in May, 1913, unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the President, his Cabinet, members of Congress, and all officials of the federal government to wear a white carnation on Mother's Day. Congress passed another Joint Resolution May 8, 1914, designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. The U.S. flag is to be displayed on government buildings and at people's homes "as a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country." President Woodrow Wilson issued the first proclamation making Mother's Day an official national holiday.

SO NOW WHAT?

If your mother is still alive, take care to shower her with special attention this Mother's Day. Visit her. Phone her. Send her a card. Give her flowers. Get her gourmet chocolates. Buy her something you know she's been wanting. But don't wait until after her funeral to let her know how much you've appreciated her! Wear your red (or otherwise-colored) carnation proudly.

What's Happening at Dr. Martin Luther?

Dorcas Circle

Meetings have stopped for the summer and will resume in September.

Have a great summer!!!

See Irene Borreson or Ann Hamil for information.

EVE Circle

Eve Circle will be meeting on May 18th at 6:30 pm to work on greeting cards.

Everyone is welcome— Please join us.

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.

B.I.B.L.E. Club

The B.I.B.L.E. Club will have their last session on Sunday, May 23rd.

They will be hosting the Fellowship Hour on that day also, so please plan to stay and talk with the kids.

An Informal HealthTalk Series

Lunch with a Doctor

Thursday, May 13—11:45 am
"Alzheimer's & Dementia"

No cost to attend

Bring a brown bag lunch, or purchase one for \$3.50. Lunch will be available beginning at 11:45 am. Program begins promptly at 12:10. Reservation required to order lunch

728-4020

Hackley Hospital

Mother—Child Banquet

Monday, May 3rd
6:30 pm

Catering by Carlson Catering

Tickets:

Adults—\$7.00

Children to 12 years—\$3.50

Preschoolers—\$1.50

The program will be Origami which is Japanese paper folding. Everyone can make one to take home!

Sponsored by the Eve Circle with the assistance of the Dorcas Circle.



Sunday, May 9, 2004

Festivals & Commemorations for May

Saturday, May 1—St. Philip and St. James, apostles

Philip, one of the first disciples of Jesus, after following Jesus invited Nathanael to "come and see." According to tradition, he preached in Asia Minor and died as a martyr in Phrygia. James, the son of Alphaeus, is called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James, commemorated July 25. Philip and James are commemorated together because the remains of these two saints were placed in the Church of the Apostles in Rome on this day in 561.

Sunday, May 2—Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, 373

Athanasius attended the Council of Nicea in 325 as a deacon and secretary to the bishop of Alexandria. At the council and when he himself served as bishop of Alexandria, he defended the full divinity of Christ against the Arian position held by emperors, magistrates, and theologians. Because of his defense of the divinity of Christ he was considered a troublemaker and was banished from Alexandria on five separate occasions.

Athanasius is an appropriate saint to be remembered at Easter. His name means "deathless one," though he himself lived in threat of death because of his theological stands. We are made in God's likeness, Athanasius affirmed. By the resurrection we are remade in the likeness of the Son, who has conquered death.

Tuesday, May 4—Monica, mother of Augustine, 387

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful. She rejoiced greatly when both her husband and his mother became Christian. But she is best known because she is the mother of Augustine. Monica had been a disciple of Ambrose, and eventually Augustine came under his influence. Almost everything we know about Monica comes from Augustine's Confessions, his autobiography. Her dying wish was that her son remember her at the altar of the Lord, wherever he was.

Monica's life bore witness to the vital role that parents play in the faith formation of their children. Consider how the church supports parents in that task.

Saturday, May 8—Victor the Moor, martyr, 303

Known also as Victor Maurus, this native of the African country of Mauritania was a Christian from his youth. He served as a soldier in the Praetorian Guard. Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan. Few details are known about his life, but many churches in the diocese of Milan are dedicated to him.

Friday, May 14—Pachomius, renewer of the church, 346

Pachomius was born in Egypt about 290. He became a Christian during his service as a soldier. In 320 he went to live as a hermit in Upper Egypt, where other hermits lived nearby. Pachomius organized them into a religious community in which the members prayed together and held their goods in common. His rule for monasteries influenced both Eastern and Western monasticism through the Rule of Basil and the Rule of Benedict respectively.

Tuesday, May 18—Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160

Erik, long considered the patron saint of Sweden, ruled there from 1150 to 1160. He is honored for efforts to bring peace to the nearby pagan kingdoms and for his crusades to spread the Christian faith in Scandinavia. He established a protected Christian mission in Finland that was led by Henry of Uppsala. As king, Erik was noted for his desire to establish fair laws and courts and for his concern for those who were poor or sick. Erik was killed by a Danish army that approached him at worship on the day after the Ascension. He is reported to have said to them, "Let us at least finish the sacrifice. The rest of the feast I shall keep elsewhere." As he left worship he was killed.

Wednesday, May 19—Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, 988

By Dunstan's time, Viking invaders had wiped out English monasticism. Dunstan played an important role in its restoration. He was commissioned by King Edmund to reestablish monastic life at Glastonbury, which became a center for monasticism and learning. He was exiled by a later king, Edwy, whom he had publicly rebuked. After Edwy's death Dunstan was made Archbishop of Canterbury and carried out a reform of church and state. He corrected abuses by the clergy, encouraged laity in their devotional life, and was committed to concerns of justice. He was also well-known as a musician and for his painting and metal work.

Festivals & Commemorations for May (continued)

Friday, May 21—John Eliot, missionary to the American Indians, 1690

John Eliot was born in England, and his first career was as a schoolteacher. In 1631 he came to New England to preach to the Puritan settlers. In New England he developed an interest in the Algonkian Indians and learned their language and customs. He published a catechism in 1654 and in 1658 translated the scriptures into Algonkian, preparing the first complete Bible printed in the colonies. Eliot also established towns for Indians who had converted to Christianity. These towns were away from Puritan colonies and were established so that the Algonkians could preserve their own culture and live according to their own laws. Eliot also trained indigenous leaders to serve as missionaries to their own people.

Sunday, May 23—Ludwig Nommensen, missionary to Sumatra, 1918

Ludwig Ingwer Nommensen was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. In the early 1860s he went to Sumatra to serve as a Lutheran missionary. His work was among the Batak people, who had previously not seen Christian missionaries. Though he encountered some initial difficulties, the missions began to succeed following the conversion of several tribal chiefs. Nommensen translated the scriptures into Batak while honoring much of the native culture and did not seek to replace it with a European one. At the time of World War II all missionaries were driven out, and the Batak people took over leadership of their own church.

Monday, May 24—Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Leonhard Euler, 1783; teachers

Scientists such as Copernicus and Euler invite us to ponder the mysteries of the universe and the grandeur of God's creation. Copernicus is an example of a renaissance person. He formally studied astronomy, mathematics, Greek, Plato, law, medicine, and canon law. He also had interests in theology, poetry, and the natural and social sciences. Copernicus is chiefly remembered for his work as an astronomer and his idea that the sun, not the earth, is the center of the solar system. Euler is regarded as one of the founders of the science of pure mathematics and made important contributions to mechanics, hydrodynamics, astronomy, optics, and acoustics.

Thursday, May 27—John Calvin, renewer of the Church, 1564

John Calvin began his studies in theology at the University of Paris when he was fourteen. In his mid-twenties he experienced a conversion that led him to embrace the views of the Reformation. His theological ideas are systematically laid out in his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. He is also well known for his commentaries on scripture. He was a preacher in Geneva, was banished once, and then later returned to reform the city with a rigid, theocratic discipline.

Calvin is considered the father of the Reformed churches. The ecumenical agreement the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shares with churches of the Reformed tradition is a recent manifestation of the unity we share in Christ.

Saturday, May 29—Jiri Tranovsky, hymnwriter, 1637

Tranovsky is considered the "Luther of the Slavs" and the father of Slovak hymnody. Trained at the University of Wittenberg in the early seventeenth century, Tranovsky was ordained in 1616 and spent his life preaching and teaching in Prague, Silesia, and finally Slovakia. He produced a translation of the Augsburg Confession and published his hymn collection *Cithara Sanctorum* (Lyre of the Saints), the foundation of Slovak Lutheran hymnody.

Monday, May 31—The Visitation

The Visitation marks the occasion of Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth greeted Mary with the words, "Blessed are you among women," and Mary responded with her famous song, the Magnificat. Luke tells us that even John the Baptist rejoiced and leapt in his mother's womb when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting. Today we are shown two women: one too old to have a child bears the last prophet of the old covenant, and the other, still quite young, bears the incarnate Word and the new covenant.

You are not only responsible for what you say, but also for what you do not say.

Martin Luther

From our Members...

THE BIBLE...AND LONG HAIR...

A young boy had just gotten his driver's permit and inquired of his father, an evangelist, if they could discuss his use of the car. His father took him into his study and said to the boy, "I'll make a deal with you, son. You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, get your hair cut, and we'll talk about the car."

Well, the boy thought about that for a moment, and decided that he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks, the boy came back and again asked his father about using the car. Again, they went to the study, where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You've brought your grades up, and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, and participating a lot more in the Bible study class on Sunday morning.

But, I'm real disappointed, since you haven't gotten your hair cut."

The young man paused a moment, and then said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even a strong argument that Jesus had long hair."

His father replied, "You're right, son. Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"

What's Prettier Than Freckles?

An elderly woman and her little grandson, whose face was sprinkled with bright freckles, spent the day at the zoo. Lots of children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist who was decorating them with tiger paws.

"You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!" a girl in the line said to

the little fellow.

Embarrassed, the little boy dropped his head. His grandmother knelt down next to him. "I love your freckles. When I was a little girl I always wanted freckles," she said, while tracing her finger across the child's cheek. "Freckles are beautiful."

The boy looked up, "Really?"

"Of course," said the grandmother. "Why just name me one thing that's prettier than freckles."

The little boy thought for a moment, peered intensely into his grandma's face, and softly whispered, "Wrinkles"

Just Pondering:

For Inquiring Minds

- In some books, why do they have blank pages at the very end?
- What does OK actually mean?
- What does the K in K-Mart actually stand for?
- Why don't you hear thunder with heat lightning?
- Do the different "M&M's" colors taste different?
- If you're caught "between a rock and a hard place", is the rock not hard?
- If one man says, "it was an uphill battle," and another says, "it went downhill from there," how could they both be having troubles?
- Why do we say "bye bye" but not "hi hi"?
- If Luke took a bath, would the water be lukewarm?
- What happens if someone loses a lost and found box?
- Where in the nursery rhyme does it say humpty dumpty is an egg?

- Why do they sterilize needles for lethal injections?
- What would happen if an Irresistible Force met an Immovable Object?

Submitted by Mary Panozzo

Ten Lessons My Father Taught Me

1. Pay your bills on time and the bank will make you another loan when you need it.
2. If you get an education, no one will ever be able to take that away from you.
3. If you've done your best, then I'm satisfied with what you've done.
4. If you tear up my car I let you drive, I don't have the money to buy you another one.
5. Don't throw away the old folks.
6. The harder you work, the luckier you get.
7. Don't gamble the grocery money.
8. Don't be impressed by folks who have a lot of "things." Most of them are lying awake at night trying to figure out how they're going to pay for all that stuff.
9. We have plenty of time if we just use the time we have.
10. It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

Submitted by Darlene Boucher



Christian One Liners

1. Don't let your worries get the best of you. Remember, Moses started out as a "basket case."
 2. Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited - until you try to sit in their pews.
 3. Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.
 4. It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.
 5. The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.
 6. When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.
 7. People are funny, they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.
 8. Opportunity may knock once, but temptation leans on the bell.
 9. Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
 10. The phrase that is guaranteed to wake up an audience: "And in conclusion."
 11. If the church wants a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.
 12. God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?
 13. To make a long story short, don't tell it.
 14. Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.
 15. Peace starts with a smile.
 16. I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?
 17. A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.
 18. We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.
 19. Outside of traffic, there is nothing that holds this country back as much as committees.
 20. Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them.
 21. Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.
 22. Don't put a question mark where God put a period.
 23. Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.
 24. Forbidden fruits create many jams.
 25. God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
 26. God grades on the cross, not the curve.
 27. God loves everyone, but probably prefers "fruits of the spirit" over "religious nuts!"
 28. God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
 29. He who angers you, controls you!
 30. If God is your Copilot - swap seats!
 31. Prayer: Don't give God instructions -- just report for duty!
 32. The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.
 33. The Will of God will never take you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.
 34. We don't change the message, the message changes us.
 35. You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage him.
- The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Submitted by Annette Burke

Remember our friends & family in the service

Please continue to pray for the safety of those near and dear to us who are in the service.

Sgt. Kevin William Sellon (*Mike & Carol Sellon's son*)
United States Army—Stationed at Camp Stanley, Korea

SSgt. Jeffrey Richard Sellon (*Mike & Carol Sellon's son*)
United States Air Force—Stationed at Travis Air Force Base, CA

MSG George K Hellman (*Clif & Melissa Hellman's nephew*)
United States Army

Sgt. Kenneth W. Hawkins (*Tom and Betty Proksa's nephew*)
United States Army—Camp Casey, Korea

AJ-3 Lisa Pepera (*Virginia Kolarik's granddaughter*)
United States Navy—Serving on the USS Kitty Hawk

If you'd like to add a name to this list, please contact Cindy Borreson.



Council Minutes—April 12, 2004



Present:

Gene Broge, Emogene Cotal, Gordon Eggleton, Stephen Hellman, Beulah Justian, Betty Proksa, Pastor Stroh, Jan Wolf

Excused:

Cindy Borreson, Tom Whitehead

Absent:

None.
Jan Wolf called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Devotions:

Pastor led devotions with a reading from Psalms 115.

Secretary's Report:

- Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held April 3rd were presented in printed form. Emogene moved to accept the minutes, Beulah seconded. Approved.
- Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held March 8th was presented in printed form. One correction was noted: Mary Panozzo's birthday party will be April 18th. Gene moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Beulah seconded. Approved

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy was not present at the meeting but she had sent the report to Stephen via e-mail. He was unable to get it to print out for the meeting. This will be tabled until the next meeting. We had a good collection last Sunday (Easter).

Pastor's Report:

Pastor presented a written report and provided the following additional information:

- Pastor made 12 hospital calls to: M. Lussky, G. Broge, Julie and Oscar Justian (birth), Ann Hulka, M. Hulka, Ann Casperson, Floyd Nickisch, and Beryl Connelly.
- Met with Diane Irwin (with Council members) and also with Rick Timmer, Fruitport Fire Inspector.
- Sellon/Pastoor wedding planned for April 17th.

Committee Reports:

Property: Stephen said some toilet tanks need to be fixed. Getting prices for cleaning out the septic tanks.

Evangelism: No report.

Finance: Sent a letter to all members stating the church's financial status.

Christian Education: Sponsored the Easter Breakfast.

Social Ministry: No report.

Stewardship: No report.

Worship & Music: They worked extra hard during Lent and for Easter.

Executive Committee/ Mutual Ministry: No report.

Special Committees:

Eve Circle: Made 20 Easter baskets for the Rescue Mission. Working on the Mother Child Banquet May 3rd.

Dorcas Circle: No report

Men's Club: Met Saturday for breakfast. Will continue to work on Habitat for Humanity and building wheelchair ramp as their projects this year.

Youth Group: No report

Petitions and Communications:

None.

Unfinished Business:

- The special Council meeting scheduled for April 24 has been changed to April 22, at 6:30 p.m.
- Church yard clean-up is scheduled for May 8th at 9:00 a.m. Beulah will make a pancake brunch.

- Spanish classes start April 21st at 7:00 p.m.

New Business:

None.

Gene moved to adjourn the meeting and Stephen seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Proksa for Tom Whitehead
Church Secretary

Thank you!

- To our "Green Thumber", Tillie Jan-driss, for keeping the plants looking so nice in the church. We very much appreciate your dedication to caring for these plants each week.
- To the family of Mary Panozzo for hosting a very enjoyable 90th Birthday Celebration for the DML members. All those who stayed to greet Mary enjoyed wonderful refreshments and fellowship.
- To our Council members for the extra time they have taken to prepare for the Special Congregational Meeting held on April 25. We are thankful for all the work and dedication you have given to DML.

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

Elizabeth Bibesco

Finance Information—April 23, 2004

ASSETS

Cash & Bank Accounts

Funds for General Operations

Checkbook	\$82.98
Savings – Reserve	<u>\$3,018.85</u>

Total Funds for General Operations \$3,101.83

Funds for Special Purposes

Savings—Designated

Roof Fund (Loan)	\$2,586.53
Evangelism	\$69.00
Eve Circle	\$2,196.50
Kitchen Fund	\$300.20
Men’s Club	\$314.31
Youth Group	<u>\$149.39</u>
Total Savings—Designated	\$5,615.93
Savings – Memorial	\$7,329.00
Savings – Social Security	<u>\$378.38</u>

Total Funds for Special Purposes **\$13,323.31**

Total Cash and Bank Accounts \$16,425.14

Investments—Designated for Housing Allowance

LB Money Market—Cash	\$953.51
LB Fund	\$35,636.99
LB Income Fund	<u>\$44,878.67</u>

Total Investments \$81,469.17

TOTAL ASSETS \$97,894.31

LIABILITIES

Roof Loan Liability	\$10,412.37
WH—Federal Tax Liability	\$1,448.87
WH—State Tax Liability	\$76.62

Total Liabilities \$11,937.86

Church Loan Information

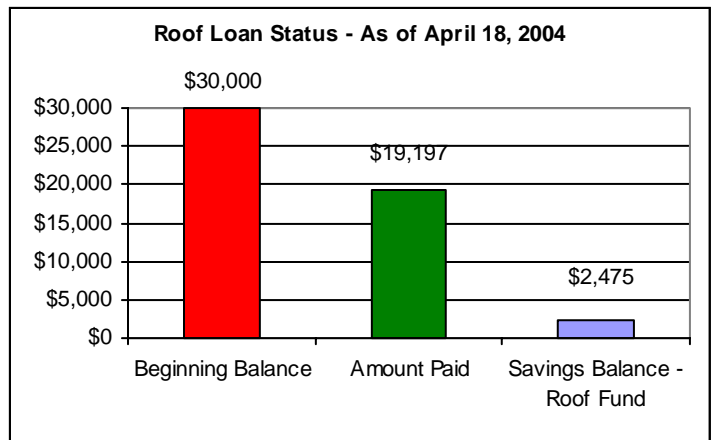
Original Loan Amount	\$30,000.00
Amount Paid (through April 2004)	\$19,197.34
Balance Due as of April 10, 2004	\$10,802.66

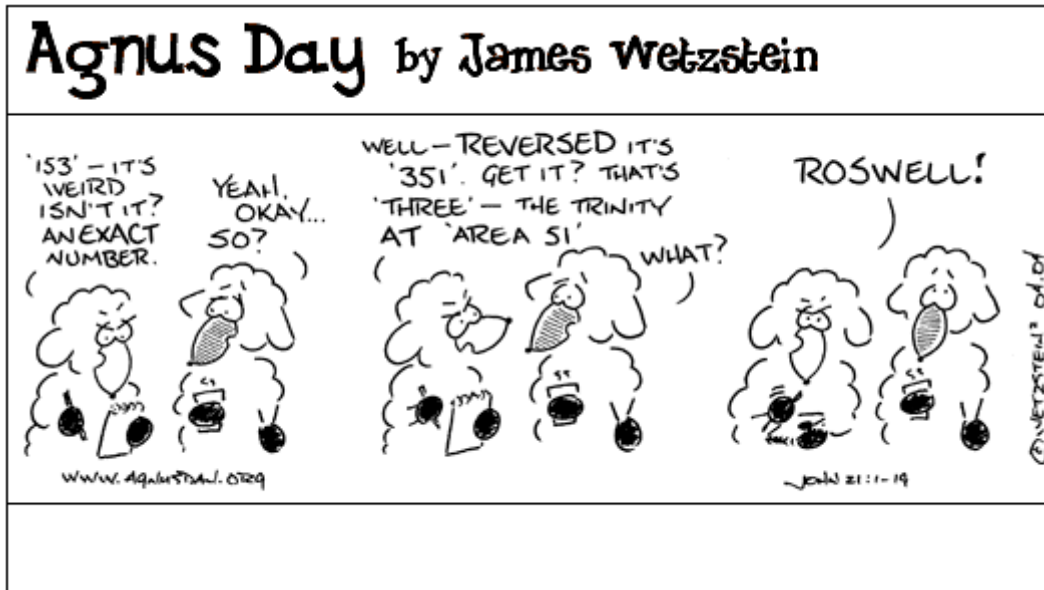
Designated Building Fund April 22, 2004 \$2,474.69

Loan Payment \$465.48

Breakdown of Giving for Loan

October 2003	\$474.00
November 2003	\$1,645.50
December 2003	\$911.00
January 2004	\$302.00
February 2004	\$373.00
March 2004	\$419.00
April 2004	\$1,218.00





Church Clean-up

Saturday, May 8—9:00 am

Bring your racks, shovels, or anything that can be used to help clean-up the yard around the church.

Beulah Justian is providing a Pancake Brunch following the clean-up for all those who participate.



It has been a number of years since we have held a clean-up so please support this effort to help beautify our church and grounds.

Contact a Council Member if you have any questions.

**Spanish
Classes**

Adriana Hellman has generously offered to teach Spanish.

Classes are held on
Wednesday evenings
At 7:00 pm.

You may contact Stephen or Adriana if you would like to enroll (231-773-8469)

Please try to support Adriana as she is giving so freely of her time.

Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Easter 4 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am <i>Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373</i>	3 Dorcas Circle 10 am Mother - Child Dinner 6:30 pm	4 Cosmops Concert 7 pm <i>Monica, mother of Augustine, 387</i>	5 Spanish Class 7 pm	6 Bible Study 2 pm Finance Com. 7 pm	7	1 Men's Club 9 am St. Philip and St. James, Apostles 8 Church Clean-up 9 am & Pancake Brunch
9 Easter 5 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am Mother's Day	10 Council Mtg. 6:30 pm	11 Parish Ed 6:30 pm	12 Spanish Class 7 pm	13 Lunch with a Doctor 11:45 am "Alzheimers's & Dementia" Bible Study 2 pm	14	15 W & M Com. 10 am
16 Easter 6 Easter Breakfast 9 am Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am	17	18 Eve Circle 6:30 pm <i>Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160</i>	19 Spanish Class 7 pm <i>Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988</i>	20 Bible Study 2 pm	21 <i>John Eliot, missionary to the American Indians, 1690</i>	22 Mutual Ministry 9 am
23 Easter 7 Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am BIBLE Club 11 am <i>Ludwig Nommensen, missionary to Sumatra, 1918</i>	24 Evangelism Com. 6:30 pm <i>Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Leonhard Euler, 1783; teachers</i>	25	26 Spanish Class 7 pm	27 Bible Study 2 pm <i>John Calvin, renewer of the Church, 1564</i>	28	29 <i>Jiri Tranovsky, hymnwriter, 1637</i>
30 Day of Pentecost Choir Practice 9 am Holy Eucharist 10 am	31 Memorial Day The Visitation	June 1 <i>Justin, martyr at Rome, c. 165</i>	June 2 Spanish Class 7 pm	June 3 Bible Study 2 pm <i>John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, 1963</i>	June 4	June 5 Men's Club 9 am <i>Boniface, Archbishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, 754</i>

JOURNEY TOGETHER FAITHFULLY

Understanding the Issues Surrounding the Church and Homosexuality

Presented by the Muskegon Area ELCA Churches



Gathering 1

Homosexuality: Myth A Reality
Paul Kurdziel, Presenter
Tuesday, April 27, 2004
First Lutheran Church—7 pm

Sometimes, what we believe and what we feel can come into conflict especially if life experiences contradict what we are taught.

Paul's first and current best friend is gay and "came out" about a year ago. This experience has forced Paul to confront some of the issues he had about homosexuality. Paul has found that much of what he feared about homosexuality was based primarily upon half-truths and conjecture. Paul will explore some of his fears within the context of his experience, an experience in which myths were presented as truths. Paul will draw upon the essence of Christ's teaching and the Beatitudes to describe his spiritual journey.

Representative members of the gay and lesbian community will join Paul to share their life stories with us.

Presenter, Paul Kurdziel is:

- a teacher at Muskegon High School
- a graduate student in counselor education and counseling psychology
- co-facilitator of *Created in God's Image* at Our Savior Lutheran Church, a human sexuality curriculum for churches

Gathering Two

The Bible and Homosexuality
Late August/Early September
Speaker to be Determined
First Lutheran Church—7 pm

What does the Bible say?

Doesn't the creation story tell us a man and a woman are God's given structure for sexual relationships?

What are God's purposes in creating us as sexual beings?

How do the commandments clarify God's purposes for our sexual life?

What are the Bible passages that cause church people to disagree?

Why are we engaged in a study of homosexuality when the Bible is clear about this matter?

What does Paul mean when he speaks of natural, unnatural, and contrary to nature?

How do we decide if a relationship is right, moral or allowed?

Are our disagreements about the interpretation of biblical passages and their application, or about the authority of the Bible?

1st Gathering April 27, 2004
2nd Gather TBD
3rd Gathering November 30, 2004

All Gatherings begin at 7:00 pm

First Lutheran Church
1206 Whitehall Road
North Muskegon, MI

**Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

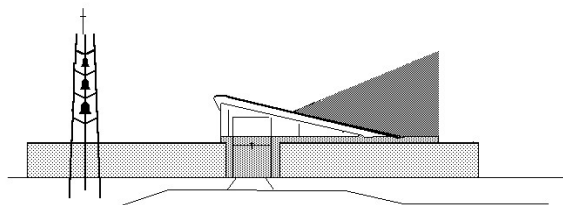
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

The Church Door

The Newsletter of Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2004

THE SEASON
of
Easter



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

THE CHURCH DOOR
May 2004
The Season Easter
