



The Church Door

I took some pictures at the new member reception meal which didn't make it into the last newsletter, so they are included below. We had a great time and a wonderful potluck meal!



November is the month where the Thanksgiving holiday lives and it is a good time to reflect on the things for which we are thankful. Actually, as Christians we are thankful all the time because God is good all the time. However, in this November newsletter I wanted to share that I am continually thankful for the members of DML, all who share their time and talents and faith and hope. DML could not be a church without the support of the many members. As the apostle Paul said, *so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the*

grace given to us: (Romans 12:5-6). Thanks to all who share their gifts. I am also thankful for the new members and the hope and life they bring to us. They are a blessing to us and I pray that we will be a blessing to them.

On a completely different note, some of our brothers and sisters from the ELCA mission start, Extended Grace, in Grand Haven will be at DML on Sunday, November 21 doing a shrub



sale fund raiser. I believe they will have a trailer with various shrubs that you may purchase if you desire. I also believe that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is matching a portion of the funds that they raise. Bring some extra money and plan to buy some shrubs to support this new ministry!

Finally, the Stony Lake Conference of ELCA Muskegon Lutheran churches has hired a part time coordinator, Ellen Cutting who will be meeting with our church council to explain the goals. The goals look good to me as they are mainly focused on evangelism and discipleship, which is the core of the church's mission.

With thanks, Grace, Mercy and Peace to all the Saints at DML,
Pastor Dennis



November 7—All Saint's Sunday

Deacon Bill Kitchka

Lector _____

Acolyte Eric Burke

Nursery Jan Ward

Ushers Mike Sellon

Russ Tilden

Tellers Tom & Donna Whitehead

Gordon Eggleton

Lessons

Daniel 7:1—3, 15—18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11—23

Luke 6:20—31

Hymns

#174—For All the Saints**

#175—Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

#223—In the Quiet Consecration

#176—For All Your Saints, O Lord

November 14—24th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Andrew Kitchka

Lector _____

Acolyte Andy Doane

Nursery Donna Whitehead

Ushers Emily Kitchka

Bill Kitchka

Tellers Randy & Cindy Borreson

Polly Eagle

Lessons

Malachi 4:1—2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6—13

Luke 21:5—19

Hymns

#355—Through the Night of Doubt
and Sorrow

#312—Once He Came in Blessing

#198—Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Si-
lence**

#259—Lord, Dismiss Us with Your
Blessing

November 21—Christ the King

Deacon Laurie Tilden

Lector _____

Acolyte Bethani Eggleton

Nursery Alice Doane

Ushers Emogene Cotal

Jan Wolf

Tellers LaVern & Irene Borreson

Bill Kitchka

Lessons

Jeremiah 23:1—6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11—20

Luke 23:33—43

Hymns

#718—Here in This Place

#649—I Want to Walk as a Child of the
Light**

#743—Stay With Us

#710—One Bread, One Body**

#767—All Things Bright and Beautiful

#741—Thy Holy Wings**

November 28—First Sunday of Advent

Deacon Tom Whitehead

Lector _____

Acolyte Emily Johnson

Nursery Polly Eagle

Ushers John Moore

Tom Proksa

Tellers Tom & Betty Proksa

John Moore

Lessons

Isaiah 2:1—5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11—14

Matthew 24:36—44

Hymns

#31—Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

#33—The King Shall Come

#29—Comfort, Comfort, Now My Peo-
ple

#27—Lo, He Comes with Clouds De-
scending**

What's Happening at DML...

Advent Dinner

1st Sunday of Advent—November 28, 2004
Immediately following worship

As is the custom, the congregation council will sponsor the dinner providing the meat, rolls, and beverages. A sign-up list will be posted on the bulletin board so we can plan to have enough food. A second sign-up list will be posted for those who wish to volunteer to provide the side-dishes for the dinner.

A freewill offering will be collected with the proceeds being used to provide Christmas baskets for area needy families.

Please plan to join us for this wonderful opportunity for fellowship and recognition as we begin the Advent Season.

All Saint's Sunday

November 7

If you have a loved one that has departed this life since last All Saint's Sunday, please contact Cindy Borreson to have them remembered in our worship service on November 7th.

Shrub Sale

Extended Grace, ELCA mission start (Grand Haven) will be at DML on Sunday, November 21 following worship for a shrub sale fund raiser.

Bring some extra money and plan to buy some shrubs to support this new ministry!

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

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 7, 2004,
following worship

The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2005 Church Budget and to elect Council members.

It is the privilege and responsibility of all voting members to attend this meeting.

Congregation Council Minutes—October 11

Present:

Cindy Borreson, Gene Broge, Emogene Cotal, Stephen Hellman, Beulah Justian, Betty Proksa, Pastor Stroh, Tom Whitehead, Janet Wolf
Excused: Gordon Eggleton

Jan Wolf called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Devotions:

Pastor led devotions with a reading from 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the September 13, 2004 Council meeting were presented in written form. Beulah moved to accept the minutes as presented, Steve seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report for September 30, 2004 was presented in printed form. Tom moved to accept the report, Beulah seconded. Approved. The following summarizes the fund balances as of 9/30/04:

Pastor's Report:

Pastor presented a written report and talked about some of the key points:

- The 1st Annual Pastor's Bike Ride on 9/18/04 was a big success.
- Pastor moved the week of vacation he had planned for November to 9/30-10/06/04 for his mother's funeral in Kansas and committal and burial in South Dakota.
- Pastor noted that we need to replace the compressor for the thermostats. After much discussion about the heating system, Beulah moved to have Stephen contact two heating contractors to evaluate replacing the compressor. They should determine what size

would be most appropriate, and the costs & benefits of a 220 volt compressor vs. a 110 volt compressor like the current one. They should also evaluate the feasibility of installing timers on the thermostats for the nave and the fellowship hall. He should also have Ernie Flermoen provide a similar estimate. Gene seconded the motion. Approved. It was noted that this information will be needed for the congregational meeting on Nov. 7th.

- Pastor asked whether the council wanted to invite Teen Challenge to come again in 2005 to participate in the service. Steve moved to invite Teen Challenge in 2005, Beulah seconded. Approved.
- Gene moved to accept the Pastor's report. Steve seconded. Approved.

Committee Reports:

Property:

- Steve indicated that he is looking for help on the Property Committee. Randy Borreson has volunteered to be on it and Gene will ask Brian Doane to be on it also.
- Steve reported that the septic tank company said that the church can wait until next year to have the tanks pumped.
- The sprinkler system was blown out last week in preparation for the winter.
- Steve will contact a locksmith to get the locks on the furnace room and blower room doors turned around so the buttons to lock/unlock the doors are on the inside and to rekey both locks to be the same as the other locks on the building.

- Windows of the church need work. The council asked the Property Committee to investigate what should be done and report back to the Council. Pastor has the name of a person at Rycenga Lumber that might be a resource.

Evangelism:

- Hackley Visiting Nurses notified Gene that this year's flu shot clinic has been cancelled due to the vaccine shortage.
- Gene has called Mike of USA Sign to replace the red letters and numbers that had been provided for all black ones. Mike agreed to do this as an even swap.
- Steve passed around samples of the evangelism brochure that he has developed. He will get quotes on printing several hundred copies of the color brochure.
- The Council asked the Committee to check if the toilets in the church have been fixed.

Finance:

All bills have been paid. Gene recommended that the weekly offering and attendance totals be printed in the weekly bulletins, along with the amount needed to meet the budget. The Council agreed to try it for four weeks.

Parish Education: No report.

Social Ministry:

Have sent cards to the sick and flowers to the hospitalized.

Stewardship: No report.

Worship & Music:

- Will add the weekly offering amounts to the bulletin.
- The Committee has moved blue book Sundays for October from the 3rd and 5th Sundays to the 2nd and 4th Sundays. The nor-

Congregation Council Minutes—September 13 (continued...)

mal schedule for blue book Sundays will resume in November.

- Pastor Exchange Sunday will be 10/17/04. The special offering will be to support missionary efforts in Slovakia.
- The October Worship & Music Committee meeting will be 10/23/04.

Executive Committee/ Mutual Ministry:

Will meet on 10/30/04.

Cindy moved to accept the committee reports. Betty seconded. Accepted.

Special Committees:

Dorcas & Eve Circles:

Both circles are busy getting ready for the bazaar on 10/30/04. They need people to make kolač, which was one of the most profitable items at last year's bazaar. Eve Circle will meet next on Tuesday, 10/12/04.

Men's Club:

Met on Saturday, 10/2/04.

Youth Group:

Andy Doane is the only youth interested at this time, which makes it difficult to have activities.

Petitions and Communications:

Tom presented the letter from Lutheran Social Services of Michigan that included a statement of intent for the congregation's 2005 contribution. This cannot be completed until after the budget is adopted at the congregational meeting on 11/7/04.

Unfinished Business:

Tom mentioned that he had been asked about getting two card tables in addition to the two 4-foot tables and 8-foot tables that Council had agreed to purchase last month with money from the Memorial Fund.

Beulah indicated that the card tables were for the same purposes that she wanted the two 4-foot tables so there is no need for the card tables. Pastor and Tom will arrange a time to get the tables.

New Business:

- The Mission for Area People has collected clothing or food in the past but there have been no contributions recently from members of the church. Jan volunteered to find out what is needed by the Mission and Cindy will put the information in the newsletter and bulletins. Personal care items are also needed for Love Inc.
- Beulah will talk to Nancy Kitchka about getting names for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets again this year.
- Election of Council Members. Betty and Jan are concluding their first terms on the Council and are eligible for re-election. Beulah is concluding her second consecutive term and is not eligible for another term. The three women will be the Nominating Committee for the congregational meeting on Nov. 7th.
- Fall Clean-up will be Nov. 6th at 10:00 a.m., after the Men's Club meeting.
- The annual Advent Dinner will be held on Nov. 28th. Cindy volunteered to lead the arrangements. Council will pay for ham, rolls, and beverages. The free-will offering will go towards the cost of Christmas baskets.
- Budget. Cindy presented a budget proposed by the Finance Committee. After reviewing the proposed budget with the Council, Cindy proposed that

the Council present the budget as printed at the congregational meeting on Nov. 7th. Gene seconded. Approved. Cindy will mail cards to members notifying them of the upcoming congregational meeting.

Gene moved to adjourn the meeting and Beulah seconded. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Whitehead
Church Secretary

Council Members Needed for 2005

If you are approached by a member of the nominating committee, please consider serving on the 2005 Church Council.

Terms are for three (3) years and meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month.

Elections will be held Sunday, November 7 following worship.

It is very inspiring to use the talents God has given us for His work.

If you would like to volunteer, please see a member of Council:

Cindy Borreson
Gene Broge
Emogene Cotal
Gordon Eggleton
Stephen Hellman
Beulah Justian
Betty Proksa
Pastor Stroh
Tom Whitehead
Janet Wolf

Financial Information—September 30, 2004

ASSETS

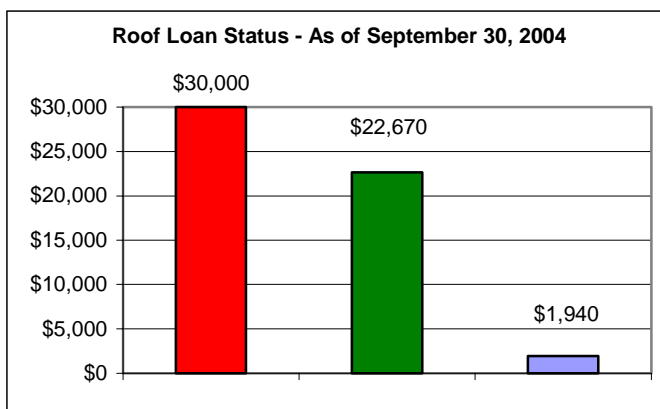
<u>Cash & Bank Accounts</u>	
Funds for General Operations	
Checkbook	\$245.10
Savings – Reserve	<u>\$5,131.06</u>
Total Funds for General Operations	\$5,376.16
Funds for Special Purposes	
Savings—Designated	
Roof Fund (Loan)	\$1,940.09
Evangelism	\$69.00
Eve Circle	\$2,072.89
Kitchen Fund	\$350.20
Men’s Club	\$314.31
Youth Group	<u>\$149.39</u>
Total Savings—Designated	\$4,895.88
Savings – Memorial	\$6,693.58
Savings – Social Security	<u>\$1,445.99</u>
Total Funds for Special Purposes	\$13,035.45
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$18,411.61
Investments—Designated for Housing Allowance	
LB Money Market—Cash	\$1,105.44
LB Fund	\$30,398.48
LB Income Fund	<u>\$43,713.16</u>
Total Investments	\$75,217.08
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>\$93,628.69</u>

LIABILITIES

Roof Loan Liability	\$6,914.64
WH—Federal Tax Liability	\$2,230.86
WH—State Tax Liability	\$295.75
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>\$9,441.25</u>

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
May 2004	\$717.00
June 2004	\$505.00
July 2004	\$764.00
August 2004.....	\$722.00
September 2004	\$438.50



HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

1. You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. Alan, age 10
2. No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with. Kirsten, age 10

WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

1. Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. Camille, age 10
2. No age is good to get married at. You got to be a fool to get married. Freddie, age 6 (very wise for his age)

HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. Derrick, age 8

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don't want any more kids. Lori, age 8

WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

1. Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. Lynnette, age 8 (isn't she a treasure)
2. On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to



Our Sick and Shut-Ins

- Brett Cavanaugh (Clif Hellman's nephew)
 Beryl Connelly
 Tim Debard
 (Margaret Hulka's nephew)
 Bea Eggleton
 Millie Fredrick
 Ann Hamil
 Stephen Hellman
 Ann Hulka
 Virginia Martin
 Floyd Nickisch
 Vicki (Majersky) Peterson
 Jeannette Roach
 Judy Slezak
 (Irene Borreson's sister & previous member)
 Paul Suchovsky
 Lowell Tambling

Stephen Hellman has been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Please remember him and his family in your prayers as this deal with this new health issue. Stephen is also having problems with his back and is awaiting scheduling of surgery in Ann Arbor.

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

Remember our friends and family members in the Military

God of Compassion, we pray for military personnel offered for the sake of others and separated from family and loved ones. Care for them; meet their needs. Grant them courage, compassion, strength, and all they need for the living of these days. Sustain them through their every trial. Remind them of the humanity they share Even with those who are called "the enemy"; Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen

- 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
- Sgt. Kenneth W. Hawkins (*Tom and Betty Proksa's nephew*)
 United States Army—Stationed in Iraq
- AJ-3 Lisa Pepera (*Virginia Kolarik's granddaughter*)
 United States Navy—Serving on the USS Kitty Hawk
- Corporal Matthew A. Miner (*Laurie Tilden's son*)
 United States Marine Corps
- AT-2 Russ Tilden, Jr. (*Russ Tilden's son*)
 United States Navy—Serving on the USS Washington
- If you'd like to add a name to this list, please contact Cindy Borreson.

go for a second date. Martin, age 10

WHAT WOULD YOU DO ON A FIRST DATE THAT WAS TURNING SOUR?

- I'd run home and play dead. The next day I would call all the newspapers and make sure they wrote about me in all the dead columns. Craig, age 9

WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

- When they're rich. Pam, age 7
- The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that. Curt, age 7

- The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. Howard, age 8

IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

- I don't know which is better, but I'll tell you one thing. I'm never going to have sex with my wife. I don't want to be all grossed out. Theodore, age 8
- It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. -- Anita, age 9 (bless you child)

HOW WOULD THE WORLD BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? Kelvin, age 8

And the #1 Favorite is.....

HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a truck. Ricky, age 10

What's Happening at DML

Dorcas Circle

Meetings are on held on the 1st Monday of the month.

The next meeting is Monday, November 1st—10:00 am in the Lounge.

See Irene Borreson or Ann Hamil for information.

Bible Study

Classes are held on Thursdays in the Lounge. Please join in, classes are much more enjoyable when shared with others.

2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

MEN'S CLUB

Saturday, November 6 — Breakfast at Nino's.

Contact Russ Tilden or Tom Whitehead with questions.

Spanish Class

Plans are underway to resume classes this fall. More details later.

EVE Circle

Eve Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. They continue making cards. Every one is welcome to join in.

Contact Betty Proksa if you have any questions.



Church Yard Clean—up

Saturday, November 6 at 10:00 am
(rain date November 14)

Bring your rakes, gloves, shovels, whatever you use to work in your yard.

Refreshments will be served.

Your help in cleaning the church yard would be greatly appreciated.



To Bill & Tillie Jandris for providing the beautiful new plants in the Church. Extra thanks to Tillie for her "green thumb" as she takes care of all the plants in the Church.

To Bill & Emily Kitchka for all the work they do at DML. Everything runs smoothly because of the dedication and hard-work of this special couple who quietly make sure that all the "little" things get taken care of—things most of us are not even aware need to be done.

To those people who serve every week as Lectors. Our service is enriched by the people who volunteer to read lessons and the psalm each week. If you would like to volunteer, please see Janet Wolf or any member of the Worship & Music Committee.

At the Welcome Celebration Dinner, we all enjoyed being able to put the silverware used in the dishwasher instead of having to wash everything by hand!

In case you were not aware, it was through the hard work of Gordon and Bea Eggleton and Tillie Jandris that funds were raised to purchase and have the dishwasher installed. Thank you to these special people who saw a need and took the time to see that it was taken care of. Your efforts are very much appreciated and will be enjoyed for years to come!

God is Like...

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results:

God is like...
BAYER ASPIRIN
He works miracles.

God is like...
a FORD
He's got a better idea.

God is like...
COKE
He's the real thing.

God is like...
HALLMARK CARDS
He cares enough to send His very best.

God is like...
TIDE
He gets the stains out that others leave behind.

God is like...
GENERAL ELECTRIC
He brings good things to life.

God is like...
SEARS
He has everything.

God is like...
ALKA-SELTZER
Try him, you'll like Him.

God is like...
SCOTCH TAPE
You can't see him, but you know He's there.

God is like...
DELTA
He's ready when you are.

God is like...
ALLSTATE
You're in good hands with Him.

God is like...
VO-5 Hair Spray
He holds through all kinds of weather.

God is like...
DIAL SOAP
Aren't you glad you have Him?
Don't you wish everybody did?

God is like...
the U.S. POST OFFICE
Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

Festivals and Commemorations—November

Monday, November 1

All Saints Day

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. Our All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. Today, or on this upcoming All Saints Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Our liturgy abounds with references to the saints and to our continual relationship with them. The preface for All Saints describes the relationship this way: "that moved by their witness and supported by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and with them receive the unfading crown of glory." Today and this week invite people to reflect on others--living and dead--who have moved and supported us in our lives of faith.

Wednesday, November 3

Martin de Porres, renewer of society, 1639

Martin was the son of a Spanish knight and Ana Velázquez, a freed black slave from Panama. Martin apprenticed himself to a barber-surgeon in Lima, Peru, and was known for his work as a healer. Martin was a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) and engaged in many charitable works. He was a gardener as well as a counselor to those who sought him out. He was noted for his

care of all the poor, regardless of race. His own religious community described him as the "father of charity." His work included the founding of an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for dogs and cats. He is recognized as an advocate for Christian charity and interracial justice.

Sunday, November 7

John Christian Frederick Heyer, missionary to India, 1873

Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. He was born in Germany and came to the United States after his confirmation. He was ordained in 1820, established Sunday schools, and taught at Gettysburg College and Seminary. Heyer became a missionary in the Andhra region of India. During a break in his mission work he received the M.D. degree from what would later be Johns Hopkins University. He later served as chaplain of the Lutheran seminary at Philadelphia until his death.

Because of his work as a pastor, missionary, and medical doctor, his commemoration can lead us to be mindful of all who work for healing of both body and spirit.

Thursday, November 11

Martin, bishop of Tours, 397

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the army at age fifteen. One winter day, a beggar approached Martin for aid, and he cut his cloak in half and gave a portion to the beggar. Later, Martin understood that he had seen the presence of Christ in that beggar, and this ended his uncertainty about Christianity. He soon asked for his release from his military duties,

but he was imprisoned instead. After his release from prison he began preaching, particularly against the Arians. In 371 he was elected bishop of Tours. As bishop he developed a reputation for intervening on behalf of prisoners and heretics who had been sentenced to death.

Today, at the same time as we remember this soldier turned peacemaker, we remember the end of World War I and veterans of war. Let these commemorations together move us to pray and work for peace in our families, congregations, and nation.

Soren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, 1855

Kierkegaard, a nineteenth-century Danish theologian whose writings reflect his Lutheran heritage, was the founder of modern existentialism. Though he was engaged to a woman he deeply loved, he ended the relationship because he believed he was called to search the hidden side of life. Many of his works were published under a variety of names, so that he could reply to arguments from his own previous works. Kierkegaard's work attacked the established church of his day. He attacked the church's complacency, its tendency to intellectualize faith, and its desire to be accepted by polite society.

Kierkegaard's work makes room for doubt in the life of faith. He also served as a prophetic challenge to churches that may want to set aside paradox for an easy faith and the gospel for cultural acceptability.

Festivals and Commemorations (con't)

Wednesday, November 17

Elizabeth of Thuringia, princess of Hungary, 1231

This Hungarian princess gave away large sums of money, including her dowry, for relief of the poor and sick. She founded hospitals, cared for orphans, and used the royal food supplies to feed the hungry. Though she had the support of her husband, her generosity and charity did not earn her friends within the royal court. At the death of her husband, she was driven out. She joined a Franciscan order and continued her charitable work, though she suffered abuse at the hands of her confessor and spiritual guide. Her lifetime of charity is particularly remarkable when one remembers that she died at the age of twenty-four. She founded two hospitals and many more are named for her.

Tuesday, November 23

Clement, bishop of Rome, c. 100

Clement was the third bishop of Rome and served at the end of the first century. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the Corinthian congregation still having difficulty with divisions in spite of Paul's canonical letters. Clement's writing echoes Paul's. "Love . . . has no limits to its endurance, bears everything patiently. Love is neither servile nor arrogant. It does not provoke schisms or form cliques, but always acts in harmony with others." Clement's letter is also a witness to early understandings of church government and the way each office in the church works for the good of the whole.

Clement's letter reminds us that divisions within the church are a sad part of our history and that pastoral love for people must be present amid our differing views of authority, scripture, and ministry.

Miguel Agustin Pro, priest, martyr, 1927

Miguel Agustin Pro grew up among oppression in Mexico, where revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the rich. He was a Jesuit priest who served during a time of intense anticlericalism, and therefore he carried out much of his ministry in private settings. He worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Miguel and his two brothers were arrested, falsely accused of throwing a bomb at the car of a government official, and assassinated by a firing squad. Just before the guns fired he yelled, "Viva Christo Rey!" which means "Long live Christ the King!"

Make plans for work that can be done on behalf of the poor in the upcoming weeks. Raise questions about what long-term solutions may bridge the gap between rich and poor.

Thursday, November 25

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, 1748

Isaac Watts was born in England to a nonconformist family, people who thought the Church of England had not carried its reforms far enough. As a youth, Watts complained to his father about the quality of hymnody in the metrical psalter of his day. That was the start of his hymnwriting career. He wrote

about six hundred hymns, many of them in a two-year period beginning when he was twenty years old. Some of Watts's hymns are based on psalms, a nonconformist tradition, but others are not. When criticized for writing hymns not taken from scripture, he responded that if we can pray prayers that are not from scripture but written by us, then surely we can sing hymns that we have made up ourselves.

Tuesday, November 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

Andrew was the first of the twelve. He is known as a fisherman who left his net to follow Jesus. As a part of his calling, he brought other people, including Simon Peter, to meet Jesus. The Byzantine church honors Andrew as its patron and points out that because he was the first of Jesus' followers, he was, in the words of John Chrysostom, "the Peter before Peter." Together with Philip, Andrew leads a number of Greeks to speak with Jesus, and it is Andrew who shows Jesus a boy with five barley loaves and two fish. Andrew is said to have died on a cross saltire, an X-shaped cross.

We too are called to invite others to the life of Christ that we will celebrate during Advent and Christmas. In what ways will the church that bears the light of Christ lead others to meet Jesus?



NOVEMBER 2004

1	Pray that the youth ministry of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and El Renacimiento in Sioux City, Iowa, continues to show young people with diverse needs the unconditional love of Jesus.
2	Pray that the Holy Spirit guides and directs the members of the outreach committee of the ELCA Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod as they develop their outreach strategy.
3	Pray for Pastors Ann and Jonathan Sorum as they serve in Bratislava, Slovakia. Jonathan serves as professor at the seminary and Ann is assistant pastor at the English-speaking congregation. Give thanks for the gifts shared through the companion synod relationship between the ELCA Slovak Zion Synod and the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic.
4	Pray for St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Bealeton, Virginia, as they and their ecumenical partners discuss establishing a community youth center on their property.
5	Praise God for the work of Pastor David and Mary Kuck in Jamaica. David teaches at the United Theological College of the West Indies and Mary serves as an English teacher at an international school. Pray for the companion synod relationship between the ELCA Florida-Bahamas Synod and ministries and churches in Jamaica, Haiti, Suriname, and Cuba.
6	Give thanks for ELCA Mission Founders and Mission Partners who have taken God's Great Commission to heart and are helping plant new congregations so others may come to know the love of God through Jesus Christ.
7	All Saints Sunday Gracious God, we give you thanks for the witness of Christians, known and unknown, in Austria, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland.
8	Pray for Pastor Aaron and Lynette Albrecht as they serve with the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church. They work with the ministry and outreach programs of the Hongo Lutheran Church, Tokyo, and provide leadership in the Hongo Student Center, a ministry among university students.
9	Pray for Agape Asian Ministry and Houa Moua, a mission developer working with the Hmong and other Asians in La Crosse, Wisconsin.
10	Pray for Unity of the Cross, a four-congregation, geographical parish in the Ryan, Iowa, area and pastoral supervisor, Pastor Roger McKinstry. Unity of the Cross has received its third intern, and is creating a teaching model for rural pastors.
11	Give thanks for the members of the ELCA Church Council and their willingness to serve this whole church; pray that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit as they meet in Chicago over the next few days.
12	Pray for Pastor Timothy Dearhamer and Resurrection Lutheran Church, a growing congregation in Yukon, Oklahoma, as they plan their move to property purchased earlier this year.
13	Pray for Pastor Greg VanDyke and New Hope Lutheran Church in Spring Mills, Pennsylvania. Pray that God continues to bless this consolidated, relocated congregation with spiritual and numerical growth.
14	Pentecost 24 O God, we give you thanks for your Spirit that continues to embrace the churches in Italy and Malta.
15	Pray for Fellowship Lutheran Church in Cleveland, Ohio, and lay minister Nate Adams. Pray for continued renewal of this 56-year-old ministry.
16	Praise God for Pastor Kevin Ogilvie, who serves as administrator for the ELCA mission in Madagascar.
17	Pray for Kevin Smith as he teaches English as a second language at a university in China under the auspices of the Amity Foundation. Give thanks for all Amity-based teachers who serve throughout China.
18	Give thanks for the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin's Center for Congregational Leadership and organizers Pastor James Bailey and Associate in Ministry Kim Eighmy. Enrollment continues to grow in this exciting lay education program.
19	Pray for Alicia and Pastor David Brondos in Mexico City. He is academic dean at the Theological Community of Mexico, an ecumenical association of theological schools.

20	On this Universal Children's Day, remember children and youth everywhere, especially those attending ELCA early childhood centers and schools. Pray that students may all grow in wisdom and knowledge.
21	Christ the King Lord God, in the midst of economic and social challenges, we pray that you will give strength and wisdom to the people of Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal.
22	Pray for Pastor Owens Rhodes and New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, an African American congregation seeking to make Christ known in Erie, Pennsylvania.
23	Praise God for Carin and Dr. Lennart Persson in Thailand. Lennart teaches New Testament at the McGilvary School of Theology of Payap University in Chiang Mai. Carin often undertakes special assignments for the ELCA.
24	Thank God for the ministry of Jim and Karen Noss, who are serving as business administrators for the ELCA mission in Cameroon.
25	On this Thanksgiving Day, remember with thanksgiving all those who have donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal or to ELCA Disaster Response. Pray that they are filled with a deep sense of participation in God's ministry among all people.
26	Pray for Pastor Mahlon and Nancy Bekedam and their participation in the life, witness and ministry of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church. Mahlon serves at Kamata Lutheran, a congregation in Tokyo. Nancy witnesses with women in the area through Bible studies and quilting groups.
27	Give thanks for New Creation Lutheran Church, Pastor Susan Schubert, and David Maiz as this newly organized congregation moves toward building in the fastest growing community in the country, Gilbert, Arizona.
28	Advent 1 God, we lift up the people of Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, that they may find peace and security.
29	On this International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, give thanks for the richness of gifts shared in the companion relationship between the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jerusalem (serving in Palestine, Jordan and Israel) and the ELCA New England and Southeast Michigan Synods.
30	Thank God for the work of Steve and Bethany Friberg as Steve continues to reactivate medical dispensaries in North Maasailand in Tanzania and Bethany home schools their children.

Prayer Ventures is a guide to daily prayer for the global and outreach ministries of the church. The Sunday prayers, based on the New Ecumenical Prayer Cycle from the World Council of Churches, take us on a prayer journey through various parts of the world. In addition to their use for daily prayer, *Prayer Ventures* can be incorporated into the prayers at Sunday worship.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. *Prayer Ventures* is produced by the Division for Outreach and the Division for Global Mission in cooperation with the Department for Communication. Contact either of the divisions for additional information: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Tel. 1-800-638-3522.

Prayer Ventures is available electronically. Visit us at www.elca.org/prayerventures/

Love Inc. and Mission for Area People

Please do not let us forget to help those in need.

Non perishable food items and personal care items are needed by Love, Inc.
Clothing and non-perishable food items are collected for Mission for Area People.

At this time of year, any items are badly needed.

Janet Wolf takes the items to Love, Inc. and will also take items to Mission for Area People.
However, if you would like to volunteer to take the items to MAP, please see Jan.
Simply place items in the boxes marked "Love, Inc." or "MAP" in the entry hall.

The Cost of Kids

I have repeatedly seen the breakdown of the cost of raising a child, but this is the first time I have seen the rewards listed this way. It's nice, really nice!

The government recently calculated the cost of raising a child from birth to 18 and came up with \$160,140.00 for a middle income family. Talk about sticker shock! That doesn't even touch college tuition.

But \$160,140 isn't so bad if you break it down. It translates into \$8,896 a year, \$741.38 a month, or \$171.08 a week. That's a mere \$24.24 a day! Just over a dollar an hour. Still, you might think the best financial advice says don't have children if you want to be "rich." It is just the opposite.

What do you get for your \$160,140?

Naming rights,--- First, middle, and last!

Glimpses of God everyday.

Giggles under the covers every night.

More love than your heart can hold.

Butterfly kisses and Velcro hugs.

Endless wonder over rocks, ants, clouds, and warm cookies.

A hand to hold, usually covered with jam.

A partner for blowing bubbles, flying kites, building sand castles, and skipping down the sidewalk in the pouring rain.

Someone to laugh yourself silly with no matter what the boss said or how your stocks performed that day.

For \$160,140, you never have to

grow up.

You get to fingerpaint, carve pumpkins, play hide-and-seek, catch lightning bugs, and never stop believing in Santa Claus.

You have an excuse to keep reading the Adventure! s of Piglet and Pooh, watching Saturday morning cartoons, going to Disney Land, and wishing on stars.

You get to frame rainbows, hearts, and flowers under refrigerator magnets and collect spray painted noodle wreaths for Christmas, hand prints set in clay for Mother's Day, and cards with backward letters for Father's Day.

For \$160,140, there is no greater bang for your buck.

You get to be a hero just for retrieving a Frisbee off the garage roof, taking the training wheels off the bike, removing a splinter, filling a wading pool, coaxing a wad of gum out of bangs, and coaching a baseball team that never wins but always gets treated to ice cream regardless.

You get a front row seat to history to witness the first step, first word, first bra, first date, and first time behind the wheel. You get to be immortal.

You get another branch added to your family tree, and if you're lucky, a long list of limbs in your obituary called grandchildren.

You get an education in psychology, nursing, criminal justice, communications, and human sexuality that no college can match.

In the eyes of a child, you rank right up there with God.

You have all the power to heal a booboo, scare away the monsters under the bed, patch a broken heart, police a slumber party, ground them forever, and love them without limits, so one day they will, like you, love without counting the cost.

ENJOY YOUR KIDS AND GRAND KIDS

Submitted by Darlene Boucher



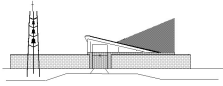
I t's a Girl!!!

Jeff & Michelle Ward
announce the birth of their daughter,
Olivia Michael,
born on Friday, October 8th at 5:01 am.
Olivia weighed 7 lbs, 10 oz and is 19" long.

**Congratulations to Jeff & Michelle
and Grandma & Grandpa, Jan and Jim Ward!**

November 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Dorcas Circle 10 am <i>All Saints Day</i>	2	3 <i>Martin de Porres, renewer of society, 1639</i>	4 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Finance Committee	5	6 9 am Men's Club at Nino's 10 am Church Yard Clean-Up
7 All Saint's Sunday 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club Annual Congregational Meeting <i>John Christian Frederick Heyer, missionary to India, 1873</i>	8 6:30 pm Congregation Council	9 6 pm Parish Ed 6:30 pm Eve Circle	10	11 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study <i>Martin, bishop of Tours, 397</i>	12	13
14 24th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club	15	16	17 <i>Elizabeth of Thuringia, princess of Hungary, 1231</i>	18 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study	19	20 11 am Worship & Music Committee
21 Christ the King 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club Extended Grace Shrub Sale at DML	22 6:30 pm Evangelism Committee	23 <i>Clement, bishop of Rome, c. 100 Miguel Agustin Pro, priest, martyr, 1927</i>	24	25 THANKSGIVING NO Bible Study <i>Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, 1748</i>	26	27 9 am Mutual Ministry
28 First Sunday of Advent 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club Advent Dinner	29	30 <i>ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE</i>	Flu Clinic Due to the Vaccine shortage, we are sorry to advise there will be NO Flu Clinic at CML this year. We hope to resume the Clinic in 2005.			



DR. MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1860 East Hile Road
Muskegon, Michigan 49441

Phone: 616-739-0603

Email: newsletter@dmlc.org

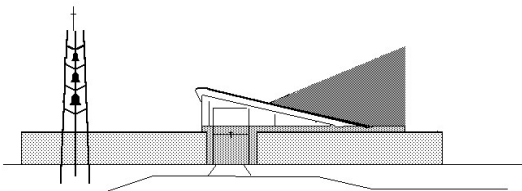
*Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America*

The Church Door

The Newsletter of Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2004

We're on the Web!
www.dmlc.org



Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical
Lutheran Church

1860 East Hile Road
Muskegon, Michigan 49441

The Church Door
November 2004
The Season of Pentecost