



The Church Door

Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church

This month we will again have Teen Challenge with us, and for once, it will be on Transfiguration Sunday (February 26th) and we will invite them to share in our meal after the worship service. In the past the women of DML have been so kind and gracious to move our traditional Transfiguration meal to accommodate Teen Challenge when they have been unable to with us on Transfiguration Sunday. Plan to attend and bring a friend, especially a young friend who may need to hear these personal stories of how one can



also to hear how, through God's grace, one can get on the right path.


We are pleased that this year it will be the Teen Challenge Women's Choir who will be with us. In the past we have only hosted the men's choir because it is more difficult to book the women's choir. I believe that there is only one women's choir but several men's choirs.

We do a good service to the community by hosting Teen Challenge, to give them some exposure and in collecting some funds to support the Teen Challenge ministry. But we also become Christian witnesses to these people who struggle with addictions, so that they know that there are real people who lead real Christian lives in the real world. That's us, real people in the real world serving the real Christ. But they also minister to us as we can see God's grace and Spirit actively working in their lives. The recidivism rate for Teen Challenge is less 15 per cent. In other words, more than 85 per cent of those who go through the group's program are changed, changed for the better

and changed for good. These lives are actually being transfigured before us!

On a completely different topic, I want to reiterate something that I said in my annual report to the congregation. That is, our worship attendance increased in 2005 to its highest level in more than 9 years (the ELCA website statistics only go back to 1997). This is certainly something that we as a worshipping community can feel good about. As I have said before, I believe that the Lord is blessing our efforts as we attempt to do the ministry which has been given to us. Let us pray that in 2006 the Lord richly blesses us as we are faithful to our calling.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Dennis



ash
wednesday
services

March 1, 2005
7:00 pm
at DML Church

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.

Worship Assistants

Hymns & Lessons

February 5—The 5th Sunday After the Epiphany

Deacon Andrew Kitchka
Lector Nancy Hulka
Acolyte Matthew Kitchka
Nursery Rose Justian
Ushers Mike Sellon & Russ Tilden
Tellers Tom & Donna Whitehead
 Gordon Eggleton

Lessons
 Isaiah 40:21-31
 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
 Mark 1:29-39

Hymns
 #469—Lord of All Hopefulness**
 #543—Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**
 #423—Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
 #551—Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

February 12—The 6th Sunday After the Epiphany

Deacon Jeff Ward
Lector John Moore
Acolyte Becky Stroh
Nursery Betty Proksa
Ushers Randy & Cindy Borreson
Tellers Randy & Cindy Borreson
 Polly Eagle

Lessons
 2 Kings 5:1-14
 Psalm 30
 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 Mark 1:40-45

Hymns
 #734—Softly and Tenderly**
 #738—Healer of Our Every Ill
 #731—Precious Lord, Take My Hand**
 #741—Thy Holy Wings**

February 19—The 7th Sunday After the Epiphany

Deacon Laurie Tilden
Lector Dave Justian
Acolyte Andy Doane
Nursery Jan Ward
Ushers Emogene Cotal & Jan Wolf
Tellers LaVern & Irene Borreson
 Bill Kitchka

Lessons
 Isaiah 43:18-25
 Psalm 41
 2 Corinthians 1:18-22
 Mark 2:1-12

Hymns
 #467—Eternal Father, Strong to Save**
 #290—There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
 #305—I Lay My Sins on Jesus
 #341—Jesus, Lead Thou On**

February 26—The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Deacon Tom Whitehead
Lector Marcia Kitchka
Acolyte Emily Johnson
Nursery Shelly Ward
Ushers John Moore & Tom Proksa
Tellers Tom & Betty Proksa
 John Moore

Lessons
 2 Kings 2:1-12
 Psalm 50:1-6
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
 Mark 9:2-9

Hymns
 #780—What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine**
 #651—Shine, Jesus, Shine**

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

Deacons, Acolytes, Tellers	Cindy Borreson	(616) 846-2477
Lectors, Ushers	Janet Wolf	(231) 798-4049
Nursery	Jan Ward	(231) 799-0424

Our friends and family in the Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Sgt. Kevin William Sellon (*Mike & Carol Sellon's son*)
United States Army—Stationed in Iraq

Sgt. Kenneth W. Hawkins (*Tom and Betty Proksa's nephew*)
United States Army—Stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington

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

Private Lynzie Heiss (*Ron Heiss's daughter*)
United States Army—Stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington

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

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

Newsletter Survey

During the Annual Meeting, the Worship & Music Committee distributed a questionnaire regarding the newsletter. We wanted to know what everyone wants to see in their church newsletter. Below are the responses we received. There were 22 responses indicated the following items as items they would like to see in the newsletter:

- Pastor's Letter - 22
- Group Information (Dorcas, Eve, Men's Club) - 22
- Prayer List - 21
- Financial Information - 19
- Worship Assistants - 19
- Hymns & Lessons - 18
- Council Minutes - 17
- From the Members - 14
- Prayer Ventures - 11
- Festivals and Commemorations - 9

Write in items - not on survey

- Announce Events - 1



Said the Holy One to Israel, "I have told you that when you pray, you should do so in the synagogue in your city. If you cannot pray in the synagogue, pray in your field. If you cannot pray in your field, pray in your house. If you cannot pray in your house, pray on your bed. If you cannot pray on your bed, meditate in your heart."
— Midrash Psalms 4:9

Robert Carey
Beryl Connelly
Millie Fredrick
Stephen Hellman
Ann Hulka
Tom Hulka
Vicki (Majersky) Peterson
Nancy RIZZO (*Ann Markgraf's daughter*)
Sandra (Stinson) Johnson
(*friend of Donna VanderStelt*)
Paul Suchovsky
Lowell Tambling
Eleanor TOWNE (*Annette Burke's mother*)

- Calendar - 1
- Member News - 1
- Internet Access - 1

Over the next couple of months, we will try to meet these requests. This month the Prayer Ventures and Festivals were not printed in the printed version of the newsletter be available in the bulletin on the 1st Sunday of the Month. They will also be available in the on-line version.

Please let us know what you think. You can discuss it with any member of the W&M committee or drop a note in the offering plate and indicate W&M Committee on it. Thank you for letting us know what you would like.
W&M Committee

Congregation Council Meeting—January 9, 2006



President Tom Whitehead called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

PRESENT: Gene Broge, Emogene Cotal, Brian Doane, Russ Tilden, Tom Whitehead, LaVern Borreson, Jan Wolf, Pastor Stroh

EXCUSED: Randy Borreson, Polly Eagle

Pastor led devotions with a reading from Galatians 4: 8-11

Minutes of the December 12, 2005 regular Council meeting were presented in printed form and approved.

The Treasurer's Report, as of December 31, 2005, was presented in printed form. Russ asked if the monies had been transferred out of the Men's Club fund to help pay for the teacher awards? An answer will be provided at the next meeting.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor presented a written report and talked on some of the key points: Pastor asked the feelings on replacing the Christmas tree with an artificial one, a retreat for council members to study constitution and create a Mission Statement, and how to handle complaints. Pastor made copies of constitution for members that did not have one. Retreat to be held on March 11, 9 am – 1 pm at a place to be determined



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property: No meeting this month. Brian stated that they want to work on replacing some of the rotting windows. The attempted break in on Saturday evening January 7 was discussed. Tom said that he would call the alarm company to get some of the window decals so that they could be placed on the back windows which would hopefully scare off any potential looters.

Evangelism: No meeting this month

Finance: A written report was presented. Cindy transferred \$3,600 from the Income Fund to the Money Market Fund and then \$2,900 from the Money Market fund to checking for Pastor's Housing Allowance for November and December. Pastor is interested in attending a seminar in San Antonio this year. He wanted to know whether the budgeted Continuing Education funds could be used for travel expenses. The Committee felt that would be appropriate. They also agreed that his unused continuing education budgeted amounts for the previous three years plus the budgeted amount for the current year would be available.

Parish Education: Had the Christmas program. Thanks to all that helped. Working on the Easter play.

Social Ministry: No report

Stewardship: No report as they are just getting started. They will meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM.

Worship & Music: Met and Music is set for the month

Executive Committee/ Mutual Ministry: Working on the performance appraisal.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Dorcas Circle: No Report

Eve Circle: No Report

Men's Club: Chili Cook Off will be February 11, 2006 at 5 pm

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion on the Church Pamphlet. Tom will email Randy Borreson, as he was working on it last, to find the status.

NEW BUSINESS

All reports need to be in to Cindy to be published in the Annual Report. Closed with the Lords Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Broge
Council Secretary



Financial Information— December 31, 2005

ASSETS

Cash & Bank Accounts

Funds for General Operations	
Checkbook	\$75.40
Cash Account	\$0.00
Savings – Reserve	<u>\$3,267.78</u>
Total Funds for General Operations	\$3,343.18

Funds for Special Purposes

Savings—Designated

Building Projects	\$6,792.19
Bazaar/Special Projects	\$4,794.98
Evangelism	\$69.00
Eve Circle	\$766.77
Kitchen Fund	\$357.55
Men's Club	\$262.91
Youth Group	<u>\$149.39</u>

Total Savings—Designated	\$13,199.79
Savings – Memorial	\$4,094.81
Savings – Social Security	<u>\$1,385.03</u>
Total Funds for Special Purposes	<u>\$18,679.63</u>

Total Cash and Bank Accounts \$22,022.81

Investments—Designated for Housing Allowance

LB Money Market—Cash	\$1,532.24
LB Fund	\$31,673.06
LB Income Fund	<u>\$39,196.14</u>

Total Investments \$72,401.44

TOTAL ASSETS \$94,424.25

LIABILITIES

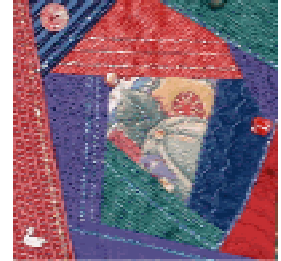
WH—Federal Tax Liability	\$2,273.27
WH—State Tax Liability	<u>\$369.54</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>\$2,642.81</u>

Summary Information for December

Average Attendance for December	= 54
Offering Needed to meet 2005 Budget	\$7,830.54
Amount Received toward Budget	\$7,948.79

Quilt Raffle

Beginning Sunday, January 29 the Dorcas Circle will be selling raffle tickets for a Quilt handmade by our oldest living member, Ann Casper-son.



Ann turned 96 on her birthday last year and has donated this Quilt with proceeds to go to the Church.

Purchase tickets from any Dorcas member so you will have a chance to win this heirloom gift from Ann.

The raffle will be held on Mother's Day—May 15.

Annual Chili Cook-Off

Saturday— February 11 5— 7 pm

Sponsored by The Men's Club
Please join us for this fun event.
The Men make the Chili and then
we get to taste test and judge
the "Best" Chili.
A freewill offering will be taken to
support Men's Club projects.
Please plan to be there!

What's Happening at DML?

EVE Circle

Eve Circle will be meeting on Tuesday, Feb 7th this month so not to conflict with Valentine's Day.

They will be starting to plan the Mother-Child banquet and talking about the Easter Baskets for the Mission. ANY ideas for a program etc. for the Mother-Child Dinner would sure be appreciated. Also anyone that would like to join them are very welcome—We need new members!

Contact Betty Proksa (231-798-7485) with any questions.

Dorcas Circle

Meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 10:00 am. Right now the ladies are planning the Transfiguration Dinner for Sunday, February 26 and selling tickets for the Quilt Raffle.

Please see Irene Borreson or Ann Hamil for information or if you would like to help with the dinner.

Teen Challenge

Transfiguration Sunday

Please join us on Sunday, February 26 at a service featuring Teen Challenge

The Transfiguration Dinner will be held immediately following worship sponsored by the Dorcas Circle

Please invite family and friends for this special worship service and dinner. A sign-up sheet has been posted for those attending and for those willing to provide help with the dinner.

MEN'S CLUB

Breakfast Meetings the 1st Saturday of each month at Mickey's Restaurant at 9:00 am with the next meeting being held on February 5th.

The Men are planning their

Annual Chili

Cook-Off

for Saturday, February 11 from 5 to 7. There will be tasting, testing, and judging by those attending. There will be a free-will offering with the proceeds to be used for Men's Club Projects.

The Men's Club will also be helping again with at least one Habitat for Humanity building project this spring or summer. Anyone interested in volunteering should see Tom Whitehead to get a volunteer registration sheet and a waiver of liability form.

Contact Russ Tilden (231-798-1032) or Tom Whitehead (231-798-4454) with questions.

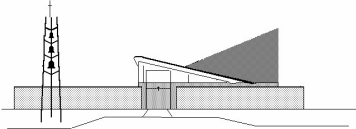
February 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7 pm Property Committee	2 2 pm Bible Study PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD Groundhog Day	3 <i>Ansgar, bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden (801-865)</i>	4 9 am Men's Club Breakfast @ Mickey's
5 5th Sunday after the Epiphany 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club <i>The Martyrs of Japan (d. 1597)</i>	6 10 am Dorcas Circle	7 6:30 Eve Circle	8	9 2 pm Bible Study	10	11 5 - 7 pm Men's Club Chili Cook-Off
12 6th Sunday after the Epiphany 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club	13 6:30 pm Congregation Council	14 <i>Cyril, monk (826-869); Methodius, bishop (c. 815-885); missionaries to the Slavs</i> Valentine's Day	15	16 2 pm Bible Study	17	18 10 am Worship & Music Committee <i>Martin Luther, renewer of the church (1483-1546)</i>
19 7th Sunday after the Epiphany 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club	20 President's Day	21	22	23 2 pm Bible Study <i>Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, martyr (c. 70-156)</i>	24	25 9:00 am Mutual Ministry Committee @ Mickey's <i>Elizabeth Fedde,</i>
26 Transfiguration Sunday Teen Challenge 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist 11 am BIBLE Club Transfiguration Dinner following Worship	27 6:30 pm Evangelism Committee 7:00 pm Stewardship Committee	28				

**Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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in America

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The Church Door

*The Newsletter of Dr. Martin Luther Evan-
gelical Lutheran Church*

February 2006

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

THE CHURCH DOOR
February 2006
The Season of Epiphany
