

The Church Door



As many of you know, our summer Slovak intern has arrived in Muskegon. Her name is Daniela Poláková and she has finished her fourth year at the seminary in Bratislava, Slovakia. After finishing her summer internship with Samuel Lutheran and DML, she will return to Bratislava to finish her final seminary year. Daniela arrived in Muskegon June 20th and barely caught her breath when she was whisked her away with Randy and Cindy Borreson and myself to make the 10+ hour car trip to the Slovak Zion Synod assembly in Hazelton, PA. She was the only Slovak intern there because DML is the only church in the Slovak Zion Synod who is currently hosting a summer Slovak seminarian. She will be returning to Slovakia around September 20.

The time sharing this year with Samuel Lutheran and DML is not as straightforward as we would like it to be due to Pastor Anderson's and my schedules. I have posted a calendar on the bulletin board at church showing when Daniela will be with DML and with Samuel. Please have a look at it and consider spending some time with her, for a meal or some other social function. I believe it would be okay to pick a time to be with her when she is supposed to be with Samuel, but in any case, check with her to see if she is available. Currently she is staying with Nancy Hulka until July 21st and then with Tom and Donna Whitehead until around August 21st or so when she will be with Pastor Anderson until she returns to Slovakia.

These are the Sundays that she is scheduled to be at DML: July 23, August 6, 13, 20, and September 17.



Pig Roast & Outdoor Worship: Don't forget our annual outdoor worship and pig roast, this year scheduled for August 6th. Come and worship and enjoy the fellowship at this event that continues to grow every year. Bring a friend.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Dennis

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 newsletter@dmlc.org)
to insert articles for next month's newsletter.



Council Minutes—June 12, 2006

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

PRESENT: Randy Borreson, Gene Broge, Emogene Cotal, Brian Doane, Russ Tilden, Tom Whitehead, LaVern Borreson, Polly Eagle, Jan Wolf

EXCUSED: PASTOR STROH

DEVOTIONS

Tom Whitehead led in Prayer

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the May 8, 2006 regular Council meeting were presented in printed form.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Reports as of March 31, April 30, and May 31, 2006 were presented in printed form. Tom Whitehead explained the balances for each month. There was a brief discussion and the council voted to add a new account to track Recognitions and Awards. Tom stated that the intern for this summer is a Female and she will be here on June 20th. Tom and Donna Whitehead have volunteered to house the intern.

PASTOR'S REPORT: There was none given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property: 6 RFPs were sent out but only two were returned to the committee. Dornbos Builders from Zealand, and Revival Windows and Doors from Caledonia. There will be a special Council meeting on June 19, 2006 and a Special Congregational Meeting will be called for July 9, 2006 for the purpose of voting on the widow project.

Evangelism: Met and Every Woman's Place will be the charity that we will be collecting personal items for. This will run for three months.

Finance: No report

Parish Education: Nothing to report

Social Ministry: Nothing to report

Stewardship: A schedule for Stewardship was presented

Worship & Music: Met and service for next month is set.

Executive Committee/ Mutual Ministry: No Meeting

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Dorcas Circle: No Report

Eve Circle: No Report

Men's Club: Golf outing was held on June 3, 2006. 10 Men played

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Ada Filka borrowed two tables on June 10, 2006.
- Brian Doane asked to borrow two tables and some chairs on June 17, 2006

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

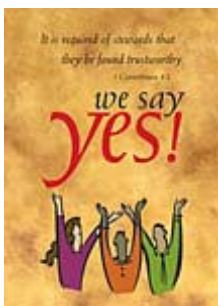
NONE

NEW BUSINESS

There was to be a new Highway sign put up in front of DML. Pastor and Tom Whitehead talked to the State Highway Dept. and they agreed not to put the sign up and they will remove the sockets that were put in the ground and fill with dirt.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm with Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Where are you?

Christian, where are you?

Alan Johnson was in a place he never imagined he would ever be. He lay in a bed in the intensive care unit of the hospital, preparing for emergency surgery. Just a few weeks ago, he

had felt as though he was in excellent health and living a perfect life. "How did I get in this situation?" he asked the chaplain who would come to his bedside to pray for him.

Allison Martin was in a place she had always dreamed of going. As she stepped off the bus and onto the college campus, several hundred miles from home, suddenly she doubted her decision to

come so far for school. "What am I doing here?" she wondered. "I don't know anyone. I feel so alone."

Like Alan and Allison, you undoubtedly have found yourself, on occasion, in an unfamiliar place. It is an inevitable part of ones life journey. The ancient Israelites found themselves in a dry and dusty desert headed toward the promised land, miles from any-

Financial Information as of May 31, 2006



Summary Information—May

Average Attendance = **69**

Offering Needed to meet 2005 Budget
\$7,008.65
Amount Received toward Budget
\$5,397.25

Please note—the following transfers were made to allow us to make our payments:

On May 31st—\$500.00

Was transferred from the Reserve savings to the Checking Account.

On June 8th—\$4,000.00

Was transferred from the LB Investment Fund into the Money Market Fund. Of that \$3,000.00 was transferred into checking.

ASSETS

Cash & Bank Accounts	
Funds for General Operations	
Checkbook	\$230.56
Savings - Reserve.....	\$3,072.00
Total Funds for General Operations	\$3,302.56
Funds for Special Purposes	
Savings—Designated	
Building (Projects).....	\$9,101.37
Church Repairs.....	\$6,094.98
Hellman Fund.....	\$25.00
Evangelism	\$69.00
Eve Circle	\$699.72
Kitchen Fund.....	\$357.55
Men's Club	\$380.91
Youth Group.....	\$285.39
Total Savings—Designated	\$17,013.92
Savings - Memorial	\$5,185.85
Savings - Social Security.....	\$797.54
Total Funds for Special Purposes	\$22,997.31
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$26,299.87
Investments—Designated for Housing Allowance	
LB Money Market—Cash	\$1,562.38
LB Fund.....	\$33,330.59
LB Income Fund.....	\$39,201.02
Total Investments	\$74,093.99
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>\$100,393.86</u>

LIABILITIES

WH—Federal Tax Liability.....	\$2,114.94
WH—State Tax Liability	\$194.33
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>\$2,309.27</u>

where they had ever been before. Yet, even in that abandoned wasteland, God was always with them, providing them with the essentials they needed to survive. And God entrusted them with the task of caring for those essentials, so that both they and others might be blessed.

In a story from the book of Genesis, God called out to the first humans. "Where are you?" They had

disobeyed God's command and eaten from the forbidden tree. They were hiding, having found themselves in a situation they had never previously experienced. Yet even in this situation of embarrassment and shame at their own failings, God did not leave them alone. Despite their punishment, God still provided for their needs and commended to them the task of caring for God's creation.

Christian, where are you?

Wherever you may be, whether in a new or familiar situation, you are always in the presence of God, and wherever you may be, God blesses you and enables you to be a blessing to others.

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Worship Assistants

July

Lessons & Hymns

July 16—6th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Cindy Borreson
 Lector Cindy Borreson
 Acolyte Andy Doane
 Nursery Shelly Ward
 Ushers Emogene Cotal & Jan Wolf
 Tellers Randy & Cindy Borreson
 Polly Eagle

Lessons

Amos 7:7-15
 Psalm 85:8-13
 Ephesians 1:3-14
 Mark 6:14-29

Hymns

#718—Here in This Place
 #763—Let Justice Flow Like Streams
 #766—We Come to the Hungry Feast
 #795—Oh, Sing to the Lord

July 23—7th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Daniela Poláková
 Lector Laurie Tilden
 Acolyte Emily Johnson
 Nursery Donna Whitehead
 Ushers Gene Broge & Tom Proksa
 Tellers Tom & Betty Proksa
 Tom Whitehead

Lessons

Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Psalm 23
 Ephesians 2:11-22
 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Hymns

#369—The Church's One Foundation
 #451—The Lord's My Shepherd
 #459—O Holy Spirit, Enter In
 #212—Let Us Break Bread Together
 #543—Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

July 30—8th Sunday after Pentecost—Praise Service

Deacon Rose Justian
 Lector Blanche VanderStelt
 Acolyte Nathaniel Johnson
 Nursery Alice Doane
 Ushers Gene Broge & Brian Doane
 Tellers Emogene Cotal & Jan Wolf
 Donna Whitehead

Lessons

2 Kings 4:42-44
 Psalm 145:10-18
 Ephesians 3:14-21
 John 6:1-21

Hymns

Change My Heart Oh God
 I Love You Lord
 Here I Am to Worship
 Shout to the Lord!
 Awesome God
 #709—Eat This Bread
 Great is the Lord

**THANKS**

- To Brian and Andy Doane for trimming the weeds in the ditch in front of the church. It looks great and we appreciate your hard work in all this heat!
- To Nancy Hulka for opening her home to Daniela in June and July and to Tom & Donna Whitehead for opening their home to her in July and August. We all appreciate your generosity to her (and us).
- To Bill and Emily Kitchka for setting up the Altar every Sunday and for taking care of Fellowship Hour every week.
- To Gene Broge for baking the communion bread for Holy Eucharist every week.
- To Nancy Gibson for enriching our services with beautiful music, all her hard work on the Worship & Music Committee, and for leading our Choir.
- To Pastor Dennis for leading us in Worship, teaching us God's grace, and showing how the Holy Spirit can lead us in faithful service.

Worship Assistants

August

Lessons & Hymns

August 6—9th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Daniela Poláková
 Lector Tom Whitehead
 Acolyte Matthew Kitchka
 Nursery Polly Eagle
 Ushers Mike Sellon & Russ Tilden
 Tellers Tom & Donna Whitehead
 Gordon Eggleton

Lessons

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
 Psalm 78:23-29
 Ephesians 4:1-16
 John 6:24-35

Hymns

Gospel Hymn Fest

August 13—10th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Daniela Poláková
 Lector Beulah Justian
 Acolyte Becky Stroh
 Nursery Lauren Johnson
 Ushers Emily & Bill Kitchka
 Tellers Randy & Cindy Borreson
 Polly Eagle

Lessons

1 Kings 19:4-8
 Psalm 34:1-8
 Ephesians 4:25--5:2
 John 6:35, 41-51

Hymns

#385—What Wondrous Love is This
 #343—Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer
 #222—O Bread of Life from Heaven
 #330—In Heaven Above

August 20—11th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Daniela Poláková
 Lector Nancy Johnson
 Acolyte Ben Stroh
 Nursery Nancy Johnson
 Ushers Emogene Cotal & Jan Wolf
 Tellers LaVern & Irene Borreson
 Bill Kitchka

Lessons

Proverbs 9:1-6
 Psalm 34:9-14
 Ephesians 5:15-20
 John 6:51-58

Hymns

#781—My Life Flows On in Endless
 Song
 #409—Praise and Thanksgiving
 #701—What Feast of Love
 #783—Seek Ye First the Kingdom of
 God

August 27—12th Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon Andrew Kitchka
 Lector Lauren Johnson
 Acolyte Andy Doane
 Nursery Beulah Justian
 Ushers John Moore & Tom Proksa
 Tellers Tom & Betty Proksa
 John Moore

Lessons

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
 Psalm 34:15-22
 Ephesians 6:10-20
 John 6:56-69

Hymns

#561—For the Beauty of the Earth
 #333—Lord, Take My Hand and Lead
 Me
 #474—Children of the Heavenly Father
 #558—Earth and All Stars

What's Happening at DML

Dorcas Circle

Resumes on September 11 at 10:00 am in the Lounge. All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

Contact Irene Borreson or Ann Hamil for more information.

EVE Circle

Eve Circle meetings resume on September 12 at 6:30 pm.

Everyone is invited to join in.

Contact Betty Proksa if you have any questions.

MEN'S CLUB

Saturday August 5

Breakfast at Mickey's

Please contact Tom Whitehead (231) 798-4454 with any questions.



Gospel Hymn Fest

Pig Roast

Sunday, August 6

Please join us for the Pig Roast and time of fellowship immediately following our Outdoor Worship and Gospel Hymn Fest..

Games and good times will be provided.



- Carl Ager*
(Donna Whitehead's father)
- Dorothy Anderson*
- Ann Casperson*
- Beryl Connelly*
- Millie Fredrick*
- Stephen Hellman*
- Tom Hulka*
- Sandra Johnson*
(friend of Donna Vanderstelt)
- Andrew Lussky*
- Maxine Pedersen*
(Priscilla Pedersen's daughter)
- Vicki Peterson*
(Barb Majersky's daughter)
- Nancy Rizzo*

Remember those in the military

- Kevin William Sellon** *(Mike & Carol Sellon's son)*
United States Army
Serving in Iraq
- Sgt. Kenneth W. Hawkins** *(Tom & Betty Proksa's nephew)*
United States Army
Stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington
- LCPL Corey Judson** *(Virginia Kolarik's grandson)*
United States Marine Corp.
Serving in Iraq
- E1 Lynzie Heiss** *(Ron Heiss's daughter)*
United States Army
Stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington
- Rob Borreson** *(Randy & Cindy Borreson's son)*
United States Army Reserves—Rob will be leaving for AIT
(Advanced Individual Training) on August 25th for 2 months.
He is being trained for Military Police.

Do you have a someone special you would like included in the prayers or added to our prayer list? Please contact Cindy Borreson at 616-846-2477 or by email at newsletters@dmlc.org and she will see they are included.



Calendar Observances—July and August

Tuesday, July 11

Benedict of Nursia, abbot of Monte Cassino (c. 480–c. 540)

Benedict is known as the father of Western monasticism. He was educated in Rome but was appalled by the decline of life around him. He went to live as a hermit, and a community of monks came to gather around him. In the prologue of his rule for monasteries he wrote that his intent in drawing up his regulations was "to set down nothing harsh, nothing burdensome." It is that moderate spirit that characterizes his rule and the monastic communities that are formed by it. Benedict still encourages a generous spirit of hospitality in that visitors to Benedictine communities are to be welcomed as Christ himself.

Wednesday, July 12

Nathan Söderblom, bishop of Uppsala (1866–1931)

In 1930, this Swedish theologian, ecumenist, and social activist received the Nobel Prize for peace. Söderblom (zay-der-blom) saw the value of the ancient worship of the church catholic and encouraged the liturgical movement. He also valued the work of liberal Protestant scholars and believed social action was a first step on the path toward a united Christianity. He organized the Universal Christian Council on Life and Work, which was one of the organizations that in 1948 came together to form the World Council of Churches.

As you commemorate Söderblom, discuss the ecumenical situation in the church now in this new millennium. What are some of the achievements of the past century? What hopes of Söderblom's might still wait to be achieved?

Monday, July 17

Bartolomé de Las Casas, missionary to the Indies (1474–1566)

Bartolomé de Las Casas was a Spanish priest and a missionary in the Western Hemisphere. He first came to the West while serving in the military, and he was granted a large estate that included a number of indigenous slaves. When he was ordained in 1513, he granted freedom to his servants. This act characterized much of the rest of Las Casas's ministry. Throughout the Caribbean and Central America, he worked to stop the enslavement of native people, to halt the brutal treatment of women by military forces, and to promote laws that humanized the process of colonization.

In a time when churches continue to work for the right of all people, we can recall the words of Las Casas: "The Indians are our brothers, and Christ has given his life for them. Why, then, do we persecute them with such inhuman savagery when they do not deserve such treatment?"

Saturday, July 22

Mary Magdalene, apostle

The gospels report Mary Magdalene as one of the women of Galilee who followed Jesus. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial. When she went to the tomb on the first day of the week to anoint Jesus' body, she was the first person to whom the risen Lord appeared. She returned to the disciples with the news and has been called "the apostle to the apostles" for her proclamation of the resurrection. Because John's gospel describes Mary as weeping at the tomb, she is often portrayed in art with red eyes. Icons depict her standing by the tomb and holding a bright red egg.

This glimpse of Easter in the middle of summer invites us to keep our eyes open for the signs of Christ's resurrection and new life that is always around us.

Sunday, July 23

Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church (c. 1303–1373)

Birgitta (beer-geet-uh) was married at age 13 and had four daughters with her husband. She was a woman of some standing who, in her early thirties, served as the chief lady-in-waiting to the Queen of Sweden. She was widowed at the age of thirty-eight, shortly after she and her husband had made a religious pilgrimage. Following the death of her husband the religious dreams and visions that had begun in her youth occurred more regularly. Her devotional commitments led her to give to the poor and needy all that she owned, and she began to live a more ascetic life. She founded an order of monks and nuns, the Order of the Holy Savior (Brigittines), whose superior was a woman. Today the Society of St. Birgitta is a laypersons' society that continues her work of prayer and charity.

Tuesday, July 25

James, apostle

James is one of the sons of Zebedee and is counted as one of the twelve disciples. Together with his brother John they had the nickname "sons of thunder." One of the stories in the New Testament tells of their request for Jesus to grant them places of honor in the kingdom. They are also reported to have asked Jesus for permission to send down fire on a Samaritan village that had not welcomed them. James was the first of the Twelve to suffer martyrdom and is the only apostle whose martyrdom is recorded in scripture. He is some-

Calendar Observances (continued...)

times called James the Elder to distinguish him from James the Less, commemorated with Philip on May 1, and James of Jerusalem, commemorated on October 23.

James is frequently pictured with a scallop shell. It recalls his life as a fisherman, his call to fish for people, and the gift of our baptism into Christ.

Friday, July 28

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672), George Frederick Handel (1685–1759), musicians

These three composers have done much to enrich the worship life of the church. Johann Sebastian Bach drew on the Lutheran tradition of hymnody and wrote about two hundred cantatas, including at least two for each Sunday and festival day in the Lutheran calendar of his day. He has been called "the fifth evangelist" for the ways that he proclaimed the gospel through his music. George Frederick Handel was not primarily a church musician, but his great work *Messiah* is a musical proclamation of the scriptures. Heinrich Schütz wrote choral settings of biblical texts and paid special attention to ways his composition would underscore the meaning of the words.

A musical gathering might be planned to commemorate these and other great church composers. Remember to include a prayer of thanksgiving for organists, choir directors, composers, and all who make music in worship.

Saturday, July 29

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality and refreshment they offered Jesus in their home. Following the characterization drawn by

Luke, Martha represents the active life, and Mary, the contemplative. Mary is identified in the fourth gospel as the one who anointed Jesus before his passion and who was criticized for her act of devotion. Lazarus, Mary's and Martha's brother, was raised from the dead by Jesus as a sign of the eternal life offered to all believers. It was over Lazarus's tomb that Jesus wept for love of his friend.

Congregations might commemorate these three early witnesses to Christ by reflecting on the role of hospitality in both home and church and the blessing of friendship.

Saturday, July 29

Olaf, king of Norway, martyr (995–1030)

Olaf is considered the patron saint of Norway. In his early career he engaged in war and piracy in the Baltic and in Normandy. In Rouen, though, he was baptized and became a Christian. He returned to Norway, succeeded his father as king, and from then on Christianity was the dominant religion of the realm. He revised the laws of the nation and enforced them with strict impartiality, eliminating the possibility of bribes. He thereby alienated much of the aristocracy. The harshness that he sometimes resorted to in order to establish Christianity and his own law led to a rebellion. After being driven from the country and into exile, he enlisted support from Sweden to try to regain his kingdom, but he died in battle.

Olaf reminds the church of the temptation to establish Christianity by waging war, whether military or social. How might the church bear witness to the one who calls it to pray for enemies and persecutors?

Tuesday, August 8

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) (c. 1170–1221)

Dominic was a Spanish priest who preached against the Albigensians, a heretical sect that held gnostic and dualistic beliefs. Dominic believed that a stumbling block to restoring heretics to the church was the wealth of clergy, so he formed an itinerant religious order, the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) who lived in poverty, studied philosophy and theology, and preached against heresy. The method of this order was to use kindness and gentle argument, rather than harsh judgment, to bring unorthodox Christians back to the fold. Dominic was opposed to burning Christians at the stake. Three times Dominic was offered the office of bishop, which he refused so that he could continue in his work of preaching.

Thursday, August 10

Lawrence, deacon, martyr (d. 258)

Lawrence was one of seven deacons of the congregation at Rome, and like the deacons appointed in Acts, was responsible for financial matters in the church and for the care of the poor. Lawrence lived during a time of persecution under the emperor Valerian. The emperor demanded that Lawrence surrender the treasures of the church. Lawrence gathered lepers, orphans, the blind and lame. He brought them to the emperor and said, "Here is the treasure of the church." This act enraged the emperor and Lawrence was sentenced to death. Lawrence's martyrdom was one of the first to be observed by the church.

Amid the concerns for the institutional church, reflect on what we consider the treasures of the church today. If the people on the margins of

Calendar Observances (continued...)

life are treasured in God's eyes, consider ways a congregation can sharpen its vision for social ministry.

Friday, August 11 **Clare, renewer of the church** **(1194–1253)**

At age 18, Clare of Assisi heard Francis preach a sermon in a church in town. From that time, she determined to follow in his example of Christian living. With Francis's help (and against the wishes of her father) she and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She became a confidante and advisor to Francis, and in standing up against the wishes of popes for the sake of maintaining complete poverty, she helped inspire other women to pursue spiritual goals.

Sunday, August 13 **Florence Nightingale (1820–1910);** **Clara Maass (1876–1901); renewers of society**

When Florence Nightingale decided she would be a nurse, her family was horrified. In the early 1800s nursing was done by people with no training and no other way to earn a living. Florence trained at Kaiserswerth, Germany, with a Lutheran order of deaconesses. She returned home and worked to reform hospitals in England. Nightingale led a group of thirty-eight nurses to serve in the Crimean War, where they worked in appalling conditions. She returned to London as a hero and resumed her work there for hospital reform.

Clara Maass was born in New Jersey and served as a nurse in the Spanish-American War, where she encountered the horrors of yellow fever. She later responded to a call for subjects in research on yellow fever. During the experiments, which

included receiving bites from mosquitoes, she contracted the disease and died. The commemoration of these women invites the church to give thanks for all who practice the arts of healing.

Monday, August 14 **Maximilian Kolbe (1894–1941);** **Kaj Munk (1898–1944); martyrs**

Father Kolbe was a Franciscan priest, born Raymond Kolbe. After spending some time working in Asia, he returned in 1936 to his native Poland, where he supervised a friary that came to house thousands of Polish war refugees, mostly Jews. The Nazis were watching, however, and he was arrested. Confined in Auschwitz, Kolbe gave generously of his meager resources, and finally volunteered to be starved to death in place of another man who was a husband and father. After two weeks, he was executed by a lethal injection.

Kaj (pronounced kye) Munk, a Danish Lutheran pastor and playwright, was an outspoken critic of the Nazis who occupied Denmark during the Second World War. His plays frequently highlighted the eventual victory of the Christian faith despite the church's weak and ineffective witness. The Nazis feared Munk because his sermons and articles helped to strengthen the Danish resistance movement. He was executed by the Gestapo on January 5, 1944.

Tuesday, August 15 **Mary, mother of our Lord**

The church honors Mary with the Greek title *theotokos*, meaning God-bearer. Origen first used this title in the early church, and the councils of Ephesus and Chalcedon upheld it. Luther upheld this same title in his writings. The honor paid to Mary as *theotokos* and mother of our Lord goes back to biblical times when

Mary herself sang, "from now on all generations will call me blessed" (Luke 1:48). Mary's life revealed the presence of God incarnate, and it revealed God's presence among the humble and poor. Mary's song, the Magnificat, speaks of reversals in the reign of God: the mighty are cast down, the lowly are lifted up, the hungry are fed, and the rich are sent away empty-handed.

Hymns to commemorate Mary as *theotokos* might include "Sing of Mary, pure and lowly" (WOV 634) or a paraphrase of the Magnificat, such as "Canticle of the Turning" (RWSB R245).

Sunday, August 20 **Bernard, abbot of Clairvaux** **(1090–1153)**

Bernard was a Cistercian monk who became an abbot of great spiritual depth. He was a mystical writer deeply devoted to the humanity of Christ and consequently to the affective dimension of spirituality. He was critical of one of the foremost theologians of the day, Peter Abelard, because he believed Abelard's approach to faith was too rational and did not provide sufficient room for mystery. Bernard's devotional writings are still read today. His sermon on the Song of Solomon treats that Old Testament book as an allegory of Christ's love for humanity. Bernard wrote several hymns which are still sung today in translation. His hymn "Jesus the very thought of you" (LBW 316) could be a way to commemorate this monk at worship today.

Thursday, August 24 **Bartholomew, apostle**

Bartholomew is mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The list in John does not include him but rather Nathanael, and these two are often assumed to

Calendar Observances (continued...)

be the same person. Except for his name on these lists of the Twelve, little is known. Some traditions say Bartholomew preached in India or Armenia following the resurrection. In art, Bartholomew is pictured holding a flaying knife to indicate the manner in which he was killed.

Monday, August 28

Augustine, bishop of Hippo (354–430)

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. Born in North Africa he was a philosophy student in Carthage, where he later became a teacher of rhetoric. Much of his young life was a debauched one. As an adult he came under the influence of Ambrose, the bishop of Milan, and through him came to see Christianity as a religion appropriate for a philosopher. Augustine was baptized by Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in 387. He was ordained four years later and made bishop of Hippo in 396. Augustine was a defender of the Christian faith and argued, against the Donatists, that the holiness of the church did not depend on the holiness of its members, particularly the clergy, but that holiness comes from Christ, the head of the church. Augustine's autobiography, *Confessions*, tells of his slow move toward faith and includes the line, "Late have I loved thee."

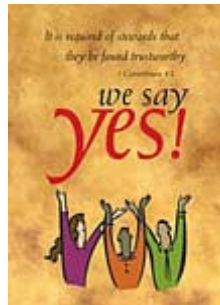
Monday, August 28

Moses the Black, monk, martyr (330–405)

A man of great strength and rough character, Moses the Black was converted to Christian faith toward the close of the fourth century. Prior to his conversion he had been a thief and a leader of a gang of robbers. The story of his conversion is unknown, but eventually, he became a desert monk at Skete. The habit of

his monastic community was white, though Moses is reported to have said, "God knows I am black within." The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native Ethiopia. He was murdered when Berbers attacked his monastery.

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What have you done?

Hey there, busy Christian. Stop for a moment. How would you

answer the questions God first posed to Eve, "What is this that you have done" (Genesis 3:13)? What have you done, Christian?

Maria, a harried mother of four and faithful member of First Lutheran Church, laughs as she responds, "My days are so hectic, that sometimes I can't remember what I did 10 minutes ago. I often feel like I'm just running from one task to another without any sense of direction."

Many of us lead busy lives full of activities, both large and small. We run our errands, we go to work, we get in our cars, we get out of our cars. We do so much that after a while one day runs into

the next, and weeks fly by, until before we know it, another month has passed.

What have you done, Christian? What were you doing a week ago? And the week before that? Though we may race through our lives, not always conscious of what we are doing, we can take comfort in knowing that no one escapes God's notice. God sees every moment of our lives. God is *in* every moment of our lives. And because we have been baptized into Christ, every moment of our lives belongs to God.

At first, it might trouble us to know that God sees all we do. Live Eve and Adam, we might be tempted to conceal some of our shadowy deeds from the All-Seeing One. Yet ultimately, we can rejoice in the fact that every moment of our lives is sacred. Because we belong to Christ, God hallows all that we do, bringing good from even our worst mistakes. God entrusts us to be stewards of our time, 168 hours a week. And through it all, God never abandons us, not even for a second.

We run our errands, we go to work, we get in our cars, we get out of our cars. And we do it all for Christ.

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Daniela Poláková—Summer Intern from Slovakia

Daniela Poláková has arrived safely in the United States! She is currently staying with Nancy Hulka.

Her housing schedule is as follows:

June 20 to July 21
staying with Nancy Hulka (231-755-8346)
July 21 to August 20
staying with Tom and Donna Whitehead
(231/798-4454)
August 20 to September 20
staying with Pastor Chris Anderson
(231-780-2041)

She will be dividing her time between Samuel Lutheran and DML. The schedule (as of now) is as follows:

July 8 to 19—Samuel
July 20 to 23—DML
July 23 to 30—Samuel
July 30 to August 20—DML
August 20 to September 11—Samuel
September 11 to 13—DML
September 14—Samuel
September 15 to 20—DML
September 20 she returns to Slovakia



At our Annual Meeting in January, a sign-up sheet was passed around asking our members if they would support a Seminarian financially or spending time with them. Please remember if you agreed to do this that she is here now and would very much appreciate spending time with you and/or your family. Also, please remember in your offering if you are able to support this program financially. Our costs include 1/2 of her flight costs and a weekly stipend (\$40 per week) for the weeks she is with us.

She also has many dates available to spend time with you. Please contact her at her temporary home and make plans to entertain her or have her spend time with you. Dates she is available (as of this printing) include the following and as you can see, she has a lot of time available to see more of Michigan. Please welcome her into your home.

July

22 (afternoon and evening), 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 (mornings and afternoons), 28, 29 (morning and early afternoon), 30, and 31.

August

1—5, 6 (late afternoon and evening), 7—22, 28—31

September

1—13, 14 (morning), 15, 17—20



DML Windows Project

The Property Committee has determined that there are a number of serious problems with the church's casement (crank open) windows, the windows in the sanctuary, and the windows on either side of the main entrance. The committee has therefore started a project to get proposals from several contractors for replacing these windows. It will evaluate these proposals and then present a recommended approach for congregational approval.

The problems with the casement windows include:

- closer mechanisms that do not stay in the window tracks;
- windows that are difficult to close;
- dry rot or other damage in the wood frames of some windows;
- inadequate air circulation in warm weather;
- suspected high level of heat loss in the winter.

The clear windows that form the north wall of the sanctuary have metal frames that are rusting in many areas. The bottom portion of that wall consists of insulated panels that are intended to allow air circulation in the sanctuary but can no longer be opened or secured properly.

The floor-to-ceiling single-pane windows on either side of the main entrance doors are in good condition but allow significant heat loss.

We have sent a Request for Proposal (RFP) to a number of contractors outlining our requirements and have started to receive their responses. We expect to have all responses received and evaluated by mid-August. There will then be a special congregational meeting on August 27th at which we will present our recommended proposal for approval by the congregation.

We are also considering the addition of air conditioning for the nursery. That room gets very hot during the summer months and we believe that this change should be considered at the same time as the windows are being replaced. The RFP for the windows asked the contractors to provide costs for framing in a window air conditioner. We are also going to get estimates from a few local air conditioning contractors on the costs of installing a "through the wall" air conditioning unit. We will then present all these options to the congregation for its review and consideration.

Property Committee

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 27, immediately following worship

Purpose: To review proposal by the Property Committee for the Window Project.

Please plan to attend worship and this Special Congregational Meeting. **It is a privilege and duty of all voting members of this congregation to attend this meeting.**

As listed in the Constitution: Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members shall have communed at least three times and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year.

For this meeting, voting members must be 18 years or older.

July 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9 am Men's Club – To be Announced <i>Catherine Wirksworth (1827 – 1878); John Mason Neale (1818–1866); hymn translations</i>
2 4th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club	3 NO Dorcas Circle <i>Thomas, apostle</i>	4 Finance Committee to be rescheduled Independence Day	5	6 <i>Jan Hus, martyr (c. 1369 – 1415)</i>	7	8
9 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club	10 6:30 pm Congregation Council 7:30 pm Property Committee	11 NO Eve Circle <i>Enoch of Nursia, abbot of Monte Cassino (c. 480 – c. 540)</i>	12 7 pm Worship & Music Committee <i>Nils Sjöblom, bishop of Uppsala (1866–1931)</i>	13	14	15
16 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club	17 <i>Balthus de Las Casas, missionary to the Indies (1474–1566)</i>	18	19	20 6:30 pm Stewardship Committee	21	22 9 am Mutual Ministry Committee @ Mickey's <i>Mary Magdalene, apostle</i>
23 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club <i>Eight Swedish women of the church (c. 1303 –1373)</i>	24 6:30 pm Evangelism Committee	25 James, apostle	26	27	28 <i>Jean Sebastian Bach (1685– 1750), Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672), George Friedrich Handel (1685 – 1759), musicians</i>	29 <i>Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany Olaf, king of Norway, martyr (995–1030)</i>
30 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club	31	Remember – Sunday, August 6 Annual Church Picnic				

August 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">Sunday, August 6 Annual Church Picnic & Pig Roast</p>		<p>1 Property Committee 5:30 pm Finance Committee 7 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Men's Club – at Mickey's 9 am</p>
<p>6 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist Gospel Hymnfest & Annual Church Picnic/Pig Roast</p>	<p>7 NO Dorcas Circle</p>	<p>8 NO Eve Circle <i>Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) (c. 1170–1221)</i></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 <i>Lawrence, deacon, martyr (d. 258)</i></p>	<p>11 <i>Chesneau, monk (1194–1253)</i></p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club <i>Florence Nightingale (1820 –1910); Clara Maass (1876 –1901); Mary MacFarlane</i></p>	<p>14 NO Congregation Council <i>Maximilian Kolbe (1894 – 1941); Kaj Munk (1898 – 1944); martyr</i></p>	<p>15 Property Committee 5:30 pm <i>Mary, mother of our Lord</i></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Stewardship Committee 6:30 pm</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Worship & Music Committee 10 am</p>
<p>20 11th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club <i>Benedict, abbot of Cluny (c. 1000–1088)</i></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 <i>Babylonian, apostle</i></p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Mutual Ministry Committee 9 am @ Mickey's</p>
<p>27 12th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Holy Eucharist NO BIBLE Club Special Congregational Meeting</p>	<p>28 Evangelism Committee 6:30 pm <i>Augustine, bishop of Hippo (354–430) Missie Black, mmk, martyr (330 –406)</i></p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		

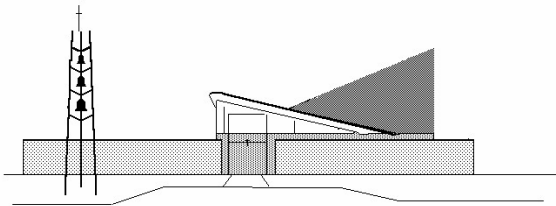
Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical
Lutheran Church

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

The Church Door

*The Newsletter of Dr. Martin Luther
Evangelical Lutheran Church*

July & August 2006



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