

FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED
CALVARY LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The most important thing that a church does is gather in worship every Sunday. It is in worship that we receive the grace and mercy of God so that we may do His work in our every day life. In this issue of the newsletter there is a summary of the worship survey from the congregation last spring. A more complete summary of the survey is available in the Parish Hall. Thank you to everyone who participated. I wanted to share some thoughts about that survey.

First, many people wrote specific comments. For what I think are obvious reasons, those are not being shared generally, but they have been reviewed by the Board of Elders and communicated to me. I am appreciative of every person who took the time and cares enough about our Church to make comments. Please be sure that all such comments were seriously considered and addressed as best as we are able.

Two of the questions answered by everyone also merit some discussion: the frequency of communion and the number of worship services. While there was an array of answers there clearly was a majority who favored a practice of communion every other week, which has been the traditional practice of this congregation. There was a significant minority (including yours truly) who prefer weekly communion. Since I have been Pastor we have moved in the direction of weekly communion, although the last week of the month is still a non-communion service.

Given the preference of the congregation, it may seem that it is time to go back to our old practice. However, not all church issues are best decided by majority rule and worship concerns are often in this category. Communion is an opportunity for sinners to receive God's grace and mercy. There are really two questions involved here. How often should the church offer Communion? And how often should an individual receive Communion?

Let's take the second question first. There is no Biblical requirement as to how often one must commune. Luther says in the Small Catechism that if someone does not commune at least four times a year that they could not be considered Christian. Luther

himself almost certainly communed at least once a week his entire adult life. The purpose of communing is to be fed the grace of God, the forgiveness of sins, and life itself. Its power is not in the ceremony or our emotion, but in the promise of God. An individual should commune whenever they feel the burden of their sin and it is available to them. Personally, I desire communion every week because it strengthens my faith, reminds me of my relationship to God, and helps keep me from sin. Luther says this about a person who no longer feels the need for the sacrament: "To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. . . . Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world . . . Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him." In other words, as long as we are flesh in a sinful world pursued by Satan, we will need the sacrament. So how often do we need Communion? The answer will be different from person to person. However, one thing is clear. We cannot commune unless it is offered by the Church.

And this is the real answer to the first question. A church should offer communion as often as there are individuals who need it. People are not required to come to the table, but if it is not offered no one can come. Consequently, this is a case where majority does not rule, but rather the majority accedes to the needs of the minority. If people choose not to commune themselves on a particular Sunday, that is perfectly acceptable. There is no requirement to commune every time it is offered. However, we will continue to offer it as frequently as possible.

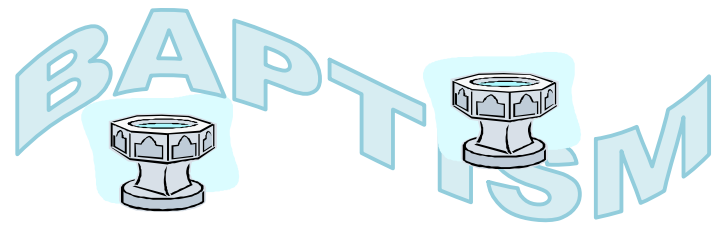
Where does this leave us on the question of the number of worship services? Are the issues the same? I think there are some similarities and some differences, but that will be discussed in greater depth in a future newsletter. Meanwhile, if you have any questions about communion or its practice in our church please feel free to ask me.

In Christ,

Pastor Joynt

Happy Birthday!

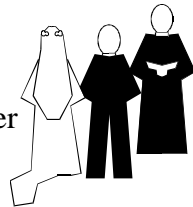
John Wagner	10/03
Lexi Stuebs	10/04
Eva Lou Phillips	10/05
Rebecca Ehrlich	10/08
Jenny Rochester	10/12
Jaiden Williams	10/12
Katie Christensen	10/14
Tristen McDunn	10/18
David Rochester	10/18
Ralph Harris	10/21
Gaylyn Hildestad	10/22
William Morner	10/22
Cailynn Stuebs	10/22
Megan Ehrlich	10/23
Renee Libkie	10/27
Catherine Cochran	10/29




Anna Vitolins	10/02
Kyle Williams	10/04
Abigail Yelland	10/08
Eva Lou Phillips	10/10
John Wagner	10/10
Thomas Joynt	10/11
Teri Jo Ford	10/12
Kyle Reinertson	10/14
Karl Dennis	10/16
Taylee Stuebs	10/16
Donna Fairchild	10/18
Sue Gibson	10/20
Lexi Stuebs	10/21
Mary Frances Atchley	10/28
Aja Backs	10/28
Whitney Stuebs	10/29
Elaine Green	10/30

Happy Anniversary

William & Lisa Stewart	10/01
Robert & Jan Stash	10/03
Robert & Donna Barton	10/04
Keith & Carolyn Macomber	10/08
Derek & Iris Bezo	10/11
Sarah & Jason Rutledge	10/13
Albert & Carolyn Claude	10/16
Melvin & Carol Parker	10/19
Carol Anne Parker	10/19
Renee & Jeff Libkie	10/31



	BUILDING PROJECT	PHASE I
	LCEF Loan	
Balance (08/30/2010)		\$103,143.85
Principle payment 8/9/10		\$ 1,575.00

2010
BUDGET
Contributions & Expenses



October 31st 2010

Come Celebrate the Reformation

As you all know October 31st is a big holiday, because we remember it as the day when the Reformation began with the nailing of the 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church. I have often thought our countrymen very generous to dress in costumes and knock on doors on that day to help us celebrate. We are blessed that this year October 31st will be a Sunday. We will use that opportunity to celebrate using the Divine Service ritten by Luther and be further blessed with musical help from Robyn Mitchell on the organ, Maggie Fenske on the cello, and Meaghan Joynt on vocals. Please mark your calendar and invite guests to this special communion celebration.

AUGUST 2010

Contributions	\$ 7,723.81
Expenses	\$17,639.60
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 450.00
Building Principal Contrib.	\$ 200.00
Building Fund Expense	\$ 240.00

YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$ 82,895.84
Expenses	\$125,597.61
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 5,778.11
Building Principal Contrib.	\$ 20,225.00
Building Fund Expense	\$ 4,419.525

OVERALL FUND BALANCES

Building Fund	\$ 4,001.82
LWML	\$ 1,326.79

ELDERS REPORT

The Board of Elders is discussing the results of the survey on members' Sunday morning experience. Currently, its discussions are on whether or not to recommend a change in the number of worship services each week. The board is reviewing the current and historical attendance numbers. If the board recommends any change, then it could be implemented in 2010 due to an advertising deadline of November for the March distribution of new telephone directories.

In addition to discussing having only a single service each Sunday on a year-round basis, the board is also considering a recommendation for a week night service. A week night service would be aimed towards those who cannot attend on Sundays. The service format could be a little different, but would have the same sermon.

For a summary of the survey, see the separate item in this newsletter. If you have any questions on the survey, please let board members (Bruce Fenske, Smokey Morner, Gil Wheeler and, in the winter, Arlen Stange) know of any cares or concerns that you may have. God bless.

2010 SURVEY ON SUNDAY MORNING EXPERIENCE

Section VIII of the by-laws identifies the duties of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church's (CELC) Board of Elders. The by-laws direct the board to 1) assist the pastor in all spiritual matters, 2) provide for worship services and meetings of the voters, 3) oversee the ushers, 4) admonish delinquent members of the congregational family, visit the sick and care for the needy, and 5) oversee its budget as approved by the voters.

In carrying out its duties as specified by the first three duties in the by-laws, the Board of Elders undertook a survey of those attending worship services on February 28 and March 7, 2010. The survey consisted of nine questions relating to worshipers' experiences on a Sunday morning. This report presents to the congregation the results of that survey and the Board's interpretation of those results.

In carrying out its duties as specified by the first three duties in the by-laws, the Board of Elders undertook a survey of those attending worship services on February 28 and March 7, 2010. The

survey consisted of nine questions relating to worshipers' experiences on a Sunday morning. A total of 61 people responded to the survey.

The survey found that:

Worship Start Time. Just over two-thirds (68%) of the respondents preferred a 9 AM start time. Because the remaining one-third of respondents were about evenly split (19% versus 12%) between the 8 AM and 10 AM start time, one can view the 9 AM start time as a compromise between the people who would prefer the earlier start time and the later start time. Perhaps, not so coincidentally, the preferred times roughly match the service times that CELC currently uses.

Education Start Time. The preferred (68%) start time for the education hour is after worship service. Only 5% of the respondents preferred the education time before worship. The balance (27%) had no preference.

Number of Services. Nearly one-fifth (18%) of the respondents had no preference on the number of services. Of those having a preference, winter visitors were nearly evenly split between preferring one or two services (57% versus 43%); however, those worshipping at CELC all year preferred one service over two services by a 4: 1 margin (83% versus 17%).

Frequency of Communion. Winter visitors and those worshipping at CELC split had nearly identical preferences. Respondents preferred communing every two weeks rather than weekly (52% versus 36% with 12% being either unsure or not responding). Thus, of those expressing a preference, they preferred communing every two weeks by nearly a 2: 1 margin.

Specific Comments. Respondents to the survey offered a total of 33 specific comments. The prevalent comments, generally those mentioned more than once, related to 1) the pastor's delivery method for the sermon, 2) the use of chanting, 3) the music tempo, and 4) inquiring as to the size of a family detracts from the anonymity of the survey.

From the survey, one may conclude that:

Worship Start Time. One may view a 9 AM start time as a compromise between the people who would prefer an 8 AM and 10AM. Also, perhaps not so coincidentally, the preferred worship start times roughly match the service times that CELC currently uses.

Sunday Morning Experience. The responses to the preferred worship and education hour start times indicate that the time slots 8 AM to 10AM or 9 AM to 11 AM would be the two- hour time slots preferred by most people for their weekly Sunday morning experience.

Number of Services. Although winter visitors do not have a distinct preference on the number of services, those attending CELC all year do have a distinct preference for a single service. This preference may be associated with fellowship opportunities (speaking to someone before or after church) or in having a greater attendance for the service at which they attend (i.e. seeing the church full).

Specific Comments. Specific comments varied but had four general areas of focus. Regardless of the number of times mentioned, the Board of Elders needs to evaluate each individual comment and determine how best answer it.

LWML NEWS

We are still collecting ink jets, postage stamps, box "Tops For Education and Campbell's labels. There are collection boxes in the foyer of the fellowship hall. The money we get from recycling the ink jets is added to our mission money. The box tops and labels are given to Yuma Lutheran School. The money from the stamps that are sold is used for grants. There are new rules regarding the stamps. WE can no longer use the common stamps ie: forever stamps, any flag stamps or any stamps that have one straight side. Importantly all stamps must have a 1/4" margin of paper around them. The perforations must be intact. Do not remove the stamps from the envelope, cut the envelop to leave the margin around the stamp.

Our first meeting of the new fall season will be Oct. 7th at 7:00P.M. We are looking forward to interesting programs, informative Bible studies and fellowship with our sisters in Christ.

FROM THE MISSION BOARD

- On Wednesday, November 10th, the Mission Board will sponsor a Mollen Immunization Clinic in the Fellowship Hall. It will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Flu and Pneumonia shots will be available to anyone in the Community for a cost and Medicare will also pay.
- Another Health Fair is in the planning for this winter. No date has been set as of yet. It also is aimed at the entire Yuma Community. Our Health Fair in 2009 was a huge success.
- Our congregation will participate again this year in serving food to the homeless at the Crossroads Mission. Watch for dates and then sign up in the Fellowship Hall.
- Lutheran Bible Translators is holding their Annual Fall Dinner in Phoenix on November 9. Watch the bulletin for further instructions. Call 1-800-532-4253 for early information.
- Remember to save your used Christian materials, including Portals of Prayer for redistribution in the Yuma Community. Add to box in the entry of the Fellowship Hall.
- Every Sunday at 11:30 on KCFY 88.1 FM, you can hear the Lutheran Hour. Calvary is one of the sponsors.
- We have a continuous basket in the Fellowship Hall for you to add your ingathering of non-perishable foods that the Mission Board takes to the Community Food Bank. Yuma has a 28% rate of unemployment and there are many out there that may be hungry and count on our generosity and love. Suggestions are peanut butter, oatmeal, mac & cheese, tuna, and canned fruits and vegetables. Let's fill the basket to overflowing!!



Pray for JERRY & KAREN MARKIN

SERVING THE LORD IN VIETNAM



Jerry and Karen serve through LCMS World Mission as GEO teachers in Phu Tho, Vietnam. They teach English-as-a-foreign-language classes at a local university and build relationships with their students and fellow teachers. They also serve with the rest of the LCMS team in Vietnam by accompanying the Vietnamese people in rural development and educational initiatives in Phu Tho.

Jerry grew up in New Mexico and California and earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, Neb. Karen grew up in Orange County, Calif., and also earned her bachelor's degree at

Concordia University Nebraska, along with a master's degree from Michigan State University in curriculum and teaching. The Markins have served in various educational roles throughout their career, including 12 years at Hong Kong International School, Nebraska. Jerry has served as a teacher, coach, director of Christian education, and youth minister. Karen has served as a teacher, principal, choir director, coach, and volunteer, in addition to speaking at conferences and on radio programs. In his free time, Jerry enjoys stamp collecting, traveling, scouting, and reading history. Karen's hobbies include reading, snorkeling, and fishing.

Please pray for Jerry and Karen as they serve the people of Vietnam. Pray that God would grant them safe travel, peace and patience as they move from Arizona to California and then on to Vietnam, good health, and faithful ministry partners. Pray also that their Vietnamese students would be open to learning English and learning why Jerry and Karen care so much about them. Finally, give thanks that Jerry and Karen have answered the Lord's call to serve in Vietnam!

- Birthdays: Jerry - May 19, Karen - Jan. 3
- Wedding Anniversary: Oct. 8 • Home Districts: Pacific Southwest



LCMS WORLD MISSION

The Global Gospel Outreach of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



06/76
Cut here and return this slip



"HERE AM I... SEND ME!"

•LEARN •PRAY •GIVE •TELL •SEND •GO •CELEBRATE

My personal support for: **Jerry & Karen Markin**

- Pray**
 - Pray daily for **Jerry & Karen** and how you can support their ministry.
- Tell**
 - Tell others about **Jerry & Karen's** ministry and other opportunities to serve.
- Give**
 - Give securely and quickly on their online giving page www.lcms.org/17418.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

An **ongoing monthly gift** of \$ _____ for the duration of **Jerry and Karen's** service. (Please choose a payment method below.)

An **annual pledge commitment** of \$ _____ each month for the next 12 months. (You will be contacted in one year to consider renewal of your pledge. Please choose a payment method below.)

I would like to make my monthly gifts by:

- Check
- Automatic withdrawal (Please include a canceled check.)
- Credit card (Please provide information below.)
- A **special gift** of \$ _____
- My check is enclosed. (Designate for **Markin** support on memo line.)
- Please charge my credit card.

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Type: VISA

Name on Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Questions? Call **1-800-433-3954** or send an e-mail to mission.giving@lcms.org

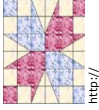
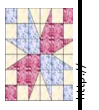
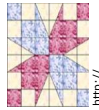
Make checks payable to and mail to:

LCMS WORLD MISSION
 P.O. Box 790089 • St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

Note: Gifts received to the Mission Senders program are deposited in the designated (or selected) missionary's account. LCMS World Mission makes a commitment to support your missionary. Gifts are non-refundable to LCMS World Mission for its commitment. Over-subscription of support for your missionary for a given year continues (or adjusts) their service into the future - it stays in their account designation. Should your missionary not go to the field or terminate early, your contributions are considered made to the Mission Senders program for benefit of other LCMS worldwide missionaries in the program.

Acct # A16155-66254

October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting  http://	2 07:30 AM-Bible Study
3 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	4	5	6	7 08:00 AM-LWML Meeting 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	8 09:00 AM-Elders meeting	9 07:30 AM-Bible Study
10 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	11	12	13	14 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs 02:00 PM-Worship Committee	15 Newsletter articles due 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting  http://	16 07:30 AM-Bible Study
17 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	18	19 05:30 PM-Dinner 06:00 PM-Board Meetings 07:00 PM-Council	20	21 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	22	23 07:30 AM-Bible Study
24 09:00 AM-Worship 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	25	26	27	28 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	29 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting  http://	30 07:30 AM-Bible Study
31 Reformation Sunday 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible Studies & Sunday sch.						

