

FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED
CALVARY LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month I addressed some of the items discussed in our worship survey. I would like to complete that discussion today by addressing the frequency of worship services.

For decades this church has worshiped once a Sunday, except during the winter when we would go to two services. Our recent survey indicated that there was significant, but not overwhelming support for going to just one service.

There are clearly benefits to one service or staying with our current schedule. It seems to me that the biggest advantage of one service is that everyone gets to see everyone. In other words, the downside of two services is, in part, you end up with some people who go to one service and never seeing people from the other. This limits our chances to act as the body of Christ with each other.

The other big advantage or disadvantage of one service is the size of the congregation at worship. At our normal peak size in the winter, one service will get quite crowded. There should be enough seats, but there will not be a lot of available seats. On the other hand at less than peak size, two services leaves us with a more than half empty church at both services. Consequently, preference for one over the other is driven in part by how full one likes the church. For me, a fuller church makes for a more enjoyable worship experience. However, it seems certain that when the church is too full it will interfere with worship and may even discourage visitors. Conventional wisdom is that whenever a church is 70% occupied, it is time for a new service. Past history indicates that we will pass that threshold, probably for about two months in the winter. However, I know that personally when I visit a church, I much prefer to worship where the church is 99% full than 50% full. Not everyone will agree.

The big advantage of two services, is the availability of more worship times. The most compelling argument to me is when someone says that if there is only one service, that they will not be able to come to worship. Further, there are some people who find it substantially easier to get to an earlier service or a

later service and will be inconvenienced by any change. In purely practical terms, it may be a mistake to limit our availability as a church to winter visitors and other visitors.

Obviously this is an important question that has weekly impact on all of us at least during the winter. It is not, however, a theological question. That is, while the answer we decide upon will say something about us as a Church and our future, it is not something that has a scriptural answer. Both answers are Godly. When we are faced with two possible Godly answers, we pray, we consider, we decide, and we trust. So I would encourage you to pray and consider this issue. We will, as a congregation, make a decision on this in the near term. Then we will trust. We will trust that God will bless the decision we have made, not always in the way we expect or hope, but in a way that is perfect for the fulfilling of His purpose.

We are truly the church not in when we worship or even in how we worship. We are truly the Church in that we worship the one true God, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in word and sacrament. The center of this worship is what He has done for us – died for our forgiveness. Having received that gift, we are called to live all our lives, trusting in His mercy.

In Christ,

Pastor Joynt

Happy Birthday!

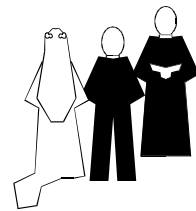
Nancy Heredia	11/02
Dillon Kline	11/03
Betty Stewart	11/04
Tyler Green	11/07
Ron Hill	11/08
Beverly Ferguson	11/09
Jerry Ferguson	11/11
Armeda Freel	11/11
Nancy Hoerauf	11/13
Katherine Seeger	11/13
Sherri Williams	11/16
Johnnie Ehrlich	11/18
Gerrick Anderson	11/19
Jerry Hoerauf	11/20
Elaine Green	11/21
Michael Kositzke	11/22
Randy Ehrlich	11/23
Haley Comstock	11/25
Arlen Stange	11/25
Smokey Morner	11/27
Irene Perman	11/27
Ira Thiessen	11/27
Barbara Kline	11/28
Carolyn Clicquennoi	11/29
Cecil Sigafoose Jr.	11/29

BAPTISM

Katie Christensen	11/03
Leonard Simpson	11/06
Cailynn Stuebs	11/07
Beverly Ferguson	11/09
David Rochester	11/10
Tristen McDunn	11/13
Nancy Heredia	11/14
Jerry Hoerauf	11/20
Randall Ehrlich	11/25
Ron Hill	11/26
Jenny Rochester	11/26
Carolyn Clicquennoi	11/29
Smokey Morner	11/30

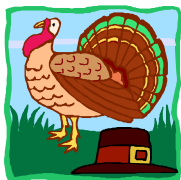
Happy Anniversary

Randy & Becky Ehrlich	11/17
Nancy & Eulalio Heredia	11/21
Terry & Jane Pray	11/24
Owen & Peg Henderson	11/27
Michael & Pat Albright	11/29



BUILDING PROJECT PHASE I LCEF Loan

Balance (09/30/2010)	\$101,424.09
Principle payment 9/30/10	\$ 1,400.00



THANKSGIVING

The mission board is planning on having Thanksgiving Dinner at noon in the fellowship hall. Please invite your friends to join us, the more the merrier. We will have sign up sheets in the fellowship hall so we can get numbers mainly and also if you would like to share a dish. Looking forward to a wonderful day of good food and fellowship. Hope to see you for Thanksgiving Dinner.

2010 BUDGET Contributions & Expenses



SEPTEMBER 2010

Contributions	\$ 9,008.50
Expenses	\$17,530.22
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 350.00
Building Principal Contrib.	\$ 1,200.00
Building Fund Expense	\$

YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$ 91,904.34
Expenses	\$143,127.83
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 6,128.11
Building Principal Contrib.	\$ 21,425.00
Building Fund Expense	\$ 4,419.55

OVERALL FUND BALANCES

Building Fund	\$ 4,151.82
LWML	\$ 1,326.79



The LWML held their first meeting of the year on October 7th. We were pleased to have ten ladies attend. Elaine Green gave us information on organ donors and we had a Bible study based on Pressure Points.

We plan to have our 8th annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 4th. We will be asking every lady of the church who is able to furnish four (4) dozen cookies; so be thinking of which recipe you want to use. The proceeds are used to fund our mission projects. The LWML gives a \$100.00 mission gift each month in which we meet in addition to monthly gifts to the food bank at one of the seminaries and to a couple with Lutheran Bible Translators.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 4th and the program will be music provided by Maggie Fenske and a couple of her students. This will be at 7PM in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited to enjoy this.

We are in need of Cookie Angels for the fellowship time between church and Bible class. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the hall.

REMEMBER: ALL ladies of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod are considered members of the LWML.

Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on KCFY 88.1 FM, listen to the Lutheran Hour. We are one of the sponsors. It is a wonderful way for our friends in nursing homes and housebound members to hear God's word. And all the rest of you can listen on your way home from Bible Study.

Place you used Christian materials, including Portals of Prayer in the box in the entry of the Fellowship Hall. These will be recycled locally to share Jesus' love.

Wednesday, November 10th, the Mission Board will sponsor a Mollen Immunization Clinic in the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Flu and Pneumonia shots will be available for the community. If you are over 65 you need to get you shots. Pneumonia shots should be given every five years and flu shots every fall.

Please help fill the basket in the Fellowship Hall with non-perishable foods for our local Yuma Community Food Bank. The Mission Board will deliver it. Fill 'er up!

We are planning another Health Fair for 2011. Our first one was a huge success and this one promises to be even better.

Sign up to serve food to the homeless at the Crossroad Mission this fall. It's a great way to serve the Lord!

If you are interested in attending the Lutheran Bible Translators Annual Fall Dinner, call 1-800-532-4253 in Phoenix for reservations. Have you ever thought how important it is to have a Bible in your own language? That's what LBT does!

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	07:30 AM-Bible Study
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/Sunday sch.		9:00 AM Mollen Flu Shot Clinic 11:00 AM-Bible Study	09:30 AM-Emerald Springs 02:00 PM-Worship Committee meeting	09:00 AM-LWML Quilting 09:00 AM-Elders meeting	07:30 AM-Bible Study	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/Sunday sch.	06:00 AM-Newsletter articles due	05:30 PM-Dinner 06:00 PM-Board Meetings 07:00 PM-Council	11:00 AM-Bible Study	09:30 AM-Emerald Springs		07:30 AM-Bible Study
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/Sunday sch.			07:00 PM-Thanksgiving Eve Service THANK YOU, GOD FOR EVERYTHING	12:00 PM-Thanksgiving Dinner		07:30 AM-Bible Study
28	29	30				
09:00 AM-Worship 10:30 AM-Bible studies/Sunday sch.						

