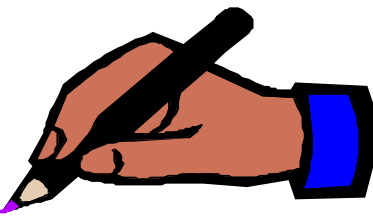


# FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The world seems to be in chaos. We are at war on three fronts, but these are strange wars where for those of us not in military families, there is little noticeable day to day impact. The economy is a mess with high unemployment, collapsed real estate prices, and great uncertainty. The federal government is broke, the state government is broke, the local government is broke, and many of us are broke.

Hopefully, your personal lives are a little more ordered than this. But they may not be. You may have family, neighbor, or even church conflicts that make this big picture stuff above seem unimportant and distant. And to add to it all we always have our individual and internal struggles. Sin, our own and that of others, has a negative impact on our lives that we often try to hide, but cannot deny to ourselves.

There are lots of ways to try and find comfort in the midst of this chaos. Some of those ways can be quite harmful like drugs, alcohol and sensual pursuits. Some can be good like family and hard work. But whatever method we use to try and find some comfort there really is no answer in this world. The chaos continues and the moments of beauty and order that we manage are fighting against an inexorable tide.

So into this mess I have only one thing to say. Rejoice! Rejoice always! Or as Paul puts it **4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.** (Phil 4).

We rejoice not because we ignore the chaos or pretend it does not matter. As Paul says our reasonableness is to be known, and it is not reasonable to ignore it. Rather we rejoice in the Lord. We know there is an answer. It is just not in this world. The answer is in our risen Lord of Easter morning. It is in our crucified Lord of Good Friday. God does not deny the chaos of this world. He does not deny the struggles, internal and external, of your life. Rather He redeems them.

In the midst of chaos and struggle here comes God in the flesh to die for the sins of the world and forgive you of your sin. In the midst of trial in the world, you know God's disposition towards you. He has shown His love for you by dying on the cross. Thus, we need not be anxious. By prayer and supplication before God we can put all things in His hands. This does not guarantee the outcome that we want, which we think is good. Rather God has guaranteed an outcome that is a blessing to us and the world, even if we do not see how it could be.

When you see the chaos of the world, throw it back to God and remember it is His problem and He leaves nothing unsolved. When you experience the trials of your own life; family, neighbors, friends who cause difficulty or are in difficulty; throw it back to God. He will bless in the midst of trial. When you struggle with your sin, avoiding committing new sin or remembering His forgiveness of old sin, throw it back to God and remember Christ already bears it on His shoulders.

This is the peace that surpasses all understanding. In the midst of chaos we know God's order. In the center of trial we know God's love to us. In the face of our sinfulness, we know God's forgiveness. So rest in Christ who will guard your hearts and minds.

In Christ,

Pastor Joynt

# Happy Birthday!

MAY

Ted Schauer	05/03
Kristina Parker	05/10
Tony Spano	05/10
Keith Macomber	05/12
Barbara Wheeler	05/12
Katie Strom	05/14
Lisa Elam	05/22
Jeanene Euhus	05/28
Carter Rutledge	05/28

JUNE

Bonnie Fischer	06/01
Elizabeth Ehrlich	06/03
Pearl Gleichman	06/03
Lillian Keinath	06/07
Adam Hildestad	06/12
Donna Spano	06/13
Martha Hill	06/14
Wilma Replogle	06/14
Anna Joynt	06/23
Donna Elias	06/24
Anna Vitolins	06/24
Cera Ford	06/26
Marion Maurer	06/26
Jeremy Rankin	06/30

# BAPTISM

MAY

Al Rahn	05/01
Neva Sawatzky	05/01
Patrick Stuebs	05/01
Carolyn Claude	05/02
Sherri Williams	05/14
Mark Ford	05/15
Bruce Fenske	05/19
Arlen Stange	05/19
Trina Elam	05/25
Virginia Hildestad	05/25
Mary Zeigler	05/25
Tony Spano	05/31

JUNE

Apryl Brand - Applehans	06/01
Bonnie Fischer	06/01
Johnnie Altstatt	06/02
Kristina Parker	06/06
Florence Wagner	06/06
Glen Wagner	06/06
Jacob Williams	06/09
Carter Rutledge	06/11
Elizabeth Ehrlich	06/25
Jeremy Rankin	06/30

## Happy Anniversary

Pat & Whitney Stuebs	05/01
Smokey & Margaret Morner	05/18
Allen & Apryl Brand - Applehans	06/01
Jim & Jenny Rochester	06/10
Jerry & Jan Hoerauf	06/11



## 2011 BUDGET Contributions & Expenses



### MARCH 2011

Contributions	
General Fund	\$11,809.62
Building Principal	\$ 670.00
Expenses	\$20,706.48
Building Principal Payment	\$ 670.00

### YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$37,318.45
Expenses	\$51,767.38
Roof	\$29,000.00
Bldg. Principal contr./pymnt	\$ 3,980.00

### OVERALL FUND BALANCES

LWML	\$ 1,326.79
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### BUILDING PROJECT PHASE I LCEF Loan



Balance (04/20/2011)	\$62,273.55
Principal payment 04/15/11	\$ 1326.79
04/30/11	\$ 510.00



## LWML NEWS

The LWML held the last meeting for the season on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup>. Bev Ferguson led us in a Bible study from the Quarterly. The recently completed Historian's notebook was on display. In the absence of the Secretary, Bev Ferguson acted as Secretary Pro-Tem.

The group designated several gifts. There has been an item in the church treasury for some time showing a balance of \$1326.79 in the LWML fund. These funds were raised thru many different fund raising projects starting with a quilt raffle many years ago. Now that the kitchen has been completed, it was voted to apply that amount to the principal on the church building loan.

A second gift of \$500 was made to the Altar committee to be used for a needed altar cloth. It was also decided to give \$50 to be used to purchase Arch books to be given to the children on Easter Sunday. The regular monthly Mission gift of \$100 is going to the Crossroads Mission building project. These gifts are all in addition to the monthly year around gifts of \$50 to the Fort Wayne Seminary food pantry and \$10 to a Lutheran Bible Translator couple.

The above funds have been generated from the Cookie Sale in December and the annual rummage sale. So THANK YOU to all who have contributed to and helped with these projects.

There was an election of officers. New officers for 2011-2012 are:

President – Nancy Heredia  
VP for Education – Connie Wubbena  
VP for Inspiration – Paula Backs  
VP for Service – Elaine Green  
Secretary – Linda Stange  
Treasurer – Marilyn Damet

A Mother/Daughter/Friend tea is being planned for Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.

Our regular meetings will be in recess until October 6<sup>th</sup> but remember:

**ALL WOMEN MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD ARE CONSIDERED LWML MEMBERS.**