Milwaukie Lutheran Church June 2011

The Light

Milwaukie Lutheran

June 2011

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MLC Call Committee: We're Listening—Part Deux

As we continue the process of discernment needed for finding a new pastor, it is worth recalling how the apostles selected their new 12th member after the resurrection of our Lord. "Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry…'" (Acts 1:24-25).
The apostles show us how we are to approach finding a new pastor for MLC. We all need to pray for guidance as the Call process moves forward.

The MLC Call Committee needs to gather information from the Congregation to complete the Ministry Site Profile and prepare for meeting with pastoral candidates. The Ministry Site Profile is very important. It describes our Congregation, our pastoral needs and the kind of pastor we believe we need. Once completed, we submit this form to the Bishop of the Oregon Synod. The Bishop will use the Ministry Site Profile to identify appropriate nominees and then will discuss these nominees with the MLC Call Committee. The Call Committee, acting on behalf of the Congregation, interviews nominees that seem to match the needs of MLC and arranges for them to meet with the Congregation.

The Call Committee needs your input if we are to represent the entire MLC Congregation. In the next few months you will have opportunities to provide us with your ideas. We encourage you to participate. We also want you to talk with members of the Call Committee. On Sundays we will be wearing nametags identifying who we are. Talk with us. Ask us questions. Share your thoughts, hopes and feelings about the future of MLC. Please keep informed about the process. Look for more information about the Call process in *The Light* each month and on the bulletin board at church.

We won't be casting lots for a new pastor as the apostles did in selecting Matthias. We will pray and talk as a community, seeking to do the Lord's will in finding our new pastor.

The MLC Call Committee: Dennis Bourdette (Chair), Kathy Olson (Vice-Chair), Beth Lillie (Secretary), Pastor Janelle Aldrich-Dale (Advisor), Guy Altman, Glen Hess, Barbara Johnson, Mark Korsness, Elmer Lampe, Les Larson, Kari Liebert, Melanie North, Linda Smith, Jean Storm and Shelby VanLeuven

Come and Meet the Call Committee

June 5, following 9:30 worship
(after Graduate Recognition)

From Our Pastor

As some of you know, I was in Arizona a few weeks ago to visit with my aging father. One day while I was there, Dad was at dialysis and I had some free time so I went to an annex of the Heard Museum which is just a few miles north of where Dad lives. In this annex the Museum focuses on Native American culture and art – a subject that I am interested in. I found a small book in the gift shop titled Native American Wisdom: A Spiritual Tradition at One with Nature. Today, while I was glancing through it I found an anonymous 18th century writing – a prayer really – that I found both interesting and comforting. It is part of the tradition of the Chinook tribe.

Teach Us, and Show Us the Way

We call upon the earth, our planet home, with its beautiful depths and soaring heights, its vitality and abundance of life, and together we ask that it

Teach us, and show us the Way.

We call upon the mountains, the Cascades and the Olympics, the high green valleys and meadows filled with wild flowers the snows that never melt, the summits of intense silence, and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the Way.

We call upon the waters that rim the earth, horizon to horizon, that flow in our rivers and streams, that fall upon our gardens and fields and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the Way.

We call upon the land which grows our food, the nurturing soil, the fertile fields, the abundant gardens and the orchards, and we ask that they

Teach us, and show us the Way.

We call upon the forests, the great trees reaching strongly to the sky with earth in their roots and the heavens in their branches, the fir and the pine and the cedar, and we ask them to

Teach us, and show us the Way.

We call upon the creatures of the fields and forests and the seas, our brothers and sisters the wolves and deer, the eagle and dove, the great whales and the dolphin, the beautiful Orca and salmon who share our Northwest home, and we ask them to

Teach us, and show us the Way.
We call upon all those who have lived on this earth, our ancestors and our friends, who dreamed the best for future generations, and upon whose lives our lives are built, and with thanksgiving, we call upon them to

Teach us, and show us the Way.

And lastly, we call upon all that we hold most sacred, the presence and power of the Great Spirit of love and truth which flows through all the Universe, to be with us to

Teach us, and show us the Way. (Anon, 18th century)

With all the devastating weather that has ravaged our country in the past few months – especially the tornadoes that are destroying life and property in the mid-west and southern states – I find these words wise. I hope that they speak to you as well.

Blessings,
Pastor Janelle

Garage Sale Date Set

The Senior High Youth are putting on a garage sale **Saturday, June 11th from 9 AM until 3 PM**. Donations will be accepted starting **Tuesday, May 31st** (day after memorial Day). We will stop accepting donations **at 8 PM Thursday, June 9th**. Contact Brian if you have items you wish to donate. We will have a "Members Only" **preview on Friday, June 10th from 7 – 8 PM** for all MLC members to shop before the sale. All money raised at sale goes toward our mission trip to Belize.

MLC to Host Youth Choir

Sonrise Singers, of Bethany Lutheran Church, Austin TX, are undertaking a Northwest tour, with a stop in the Portland area on Monday, June 13th, and request that families in our church open their homes and host 2 to 4 individuals overnight. The group, consisting of 32 girls and 9 boys and traveling with 9 adults (5 women, 4 men), would also need one meal provided for them on the evening of the concert, which is tentatively set for 7 PM. They are fully self-funded, but would appreciate a free-will offering at the concert. With their personnel numbering about 50, and families hosting 2-4 people (no singles), about 20 to 25 families would need to step forward. If interested, please email Owen, owenjames101@gmail.com, and indicate how many people you can house, and whether your home is more suited to girls, boys or adults. Here's more info about the choir…

"The Sonrise Singers is a high school youth choir that is in it's thirtieth year of touring. The current choir, under the direction of Kimberly Angerman, is made up of 41 ninth through twelfth graders. In years past the Sonrise Singers have performed in churches and schools from Canada to the Bahamas as well as almost every state in the continental U.S. Our musical/drama this year is called "The Waiting". Have you ever kept a vigil in anxious expectation? Perhaps you were waiting for that phone call about a dying loved one, or maybe you were waiting for word from a surgeon. When we are at a loss of what to do or say, know that God has a wonderful plan laid out for each of us. Sometimes, waiting for that plan to unfold is the hardest part. The style of music is contemporary and we use tracks for our accompaniment. We also choreograph most of the songs!"

Mission Endowment Board Asking for Ministry Proposals

The mission of the MLC Mission Endowment Fund is to fund "expanding ministry in Spiritual Growth, Education, and Outreach". Over the past 12 years, the Fund has distributed nearly $66,000 to such projects as Habitat for Humanity, Milwaukie Nutrition Center, Camp Lutherwood, BackPack Buddies, and our own Scholarship program.

Funds are now available for distribution from 2010 earnings. If you know of a mission opportunity that you would like the Board to consider funding, please contact one of the current Board members or the church office for guidelines regarding your funding request.

All funding requests should be received by June 15, 2011. The Board will then make its determination of the projects to be funded.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the following Board members: *Bob Lease, Gretchen Miles, Tom Giese, Glen Hess or Don Wilsey.*

Women's and Men's Dinner Out

Monday, June 20th,, the Women's Dinner Out will be at Gustav's off Sunnyside. Men's Dinner Out will be at the Old Spaghetti Factory off Sunnyside. The time to gather is 5:30 p.m. All are invited to join together for good food, fun and fellowship.

Hunger Update

The April issue of THE LUTHERAN has an article titled "Blessing or Privileges". " Sometimes we say 'we are so blessed ' when we mean ' we are so privileged' ". How privileged we all are. Do privileges bring obligations, to the One Who grants them? The article is worth your time to find and consider. Speaking of our World Hunger and disaster relief offerings. We are at $3318 toward our $7500 goal. Very good MLC. Will you join those who contribute each month as a response for their God given "privileges". It would be a good habit to cultivate.

Preschool News

Milwaukie Lutheran Preschool is now taking registrations for the 2011-2012 school year. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by September 1. Three year olds attend school from 9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tues/ Thurs. and four year olds from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mon./Wed/Fri. Contact Barbara Johnson at 503-659-9881 for more info.

Witnessing Ministry Team News

The Witnessing Team has started working at our Parish Records. You may have read or heard how out of date they are, therefore, the job is really overdue. This is so very important to all of us at Milwaukie Lutheran Church; these are the records we use to determine how many voting members we have, how many members are needed for a quorum.

In updating the records, we are looking at the number of "*those baptized persons and those who have declared and maintained their membership in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.*"[1] We also find in our constitution the reasons for removing persons from the Parish Records and the constitution states *"a confirmed member who, in the judgment of the Congregational Council, shows no interest in attending Church services and does not partake of Holy Communion; and does not contribute financially to the support of the Congregation for a period of one year, shall be presumed no longer to desire membership, shall lose the right to vote, and shall not be counted in the membership statistics of the Congregation."*[2] *"Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has continuing pastoral concern."*[3]

This sounds rather harsh, but the membership rolls are so very important to all us at Milwaukie Lutheran, it tells us how many voting members we have, how big we really are, if there are people who have not been coming to services for a variety of reasons, and the pastor *"shall report these statistics to the congregation annually and, when required, to the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."*[4] We need an accurate counting because this also affects how many people from the congregation we send to Synod Assemblies as delegates.

We want to assure everyone that all are welcome and no one will be turned away, but this is something that has to be done. The Constitution also tells us that the person who has not taken part in the congregation's life for the one year, *"that name shall be kept in the files for a period of five years thereafter. If he/she resumes activity within the five-year period, he/she shall be restored to the active membership list."* [5]

This is a big job and it will take several months to complete. We need your patience and prayers. If you have any questions about the process, please ask someone on the team.

If, for some reason, you find that you are in disagreement with anything that is quoted in this article, make a note, keep it and bring it to our next congregational meeting and we can talk about it.

The members of the Witnessing Ministry Team are: Chad Zabel, Linda Millenbach, Pat Korsness, and Shirley Meyer, Chair.

[1]– pg. 10—C8.01—Constitution and Bylaws, adopted 7/20/08
[2]– pg. 27—7.2 Membership (C.8.05.e) - Constitution and Bylaws, adopted 7/20/08
[3]– pg. 27—7.3 Membership (C.8.05.e) - Constitution and Bylaws, adopted 7/20/08
[4]– pg. 26—Part 5 Parish Records - Constitution and Bylaws, adopted 7/20/08
[5]– pg. 26—Part 7 Membership (C.8.05.e) - Constitution and Bylaws, adopted 7/20/08

Have You Seen the Library Renovation Lately?

Many people have been busy scraping and painting, installing an electric fireplace, and new carpet and updating the furnishings to make the library a more homely and comfortable place for meetings and get-togethers of all kinds. Bob Lease and Andy Quale have done a terrific job of renewing the library space that has served MLC well for many years. Barbara Johnson, Linda Seals, Karen Hicks and others have also been involved in the project.

The replacement table top was stored in Gale Lennon's garage for a number of years because he felt it was too good to just throw away but didn't quite know where to use it look at it through the dust and cobwebs and said, "I think I can rescue that." And he did. In less than 2 weeks, with lots and lots of sanding, a little wood filler, 6 coats of polyurethane and Andy's custom-built legs and new casters, the table has joined other updated furnishings in the library. We are luck to have such talented and willing craftsmen in our congregation.

Stop by and take a look. You'll be thrilled with the great job.

Day Camp is Coming!!

When: Monday, August 8th – Thursday August 11th

Where: Milwaukie Lutheran Church

Who: All kids entering 1st - 8th grade in the Fall.

Start Time: 9:00am

End Time: 3:00pm

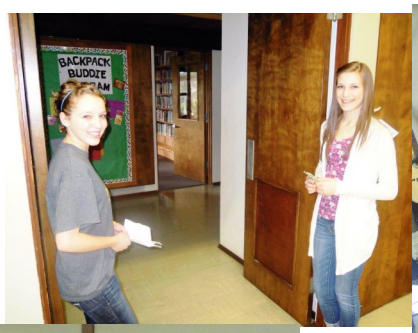
Registration Began: May 1st, 2011

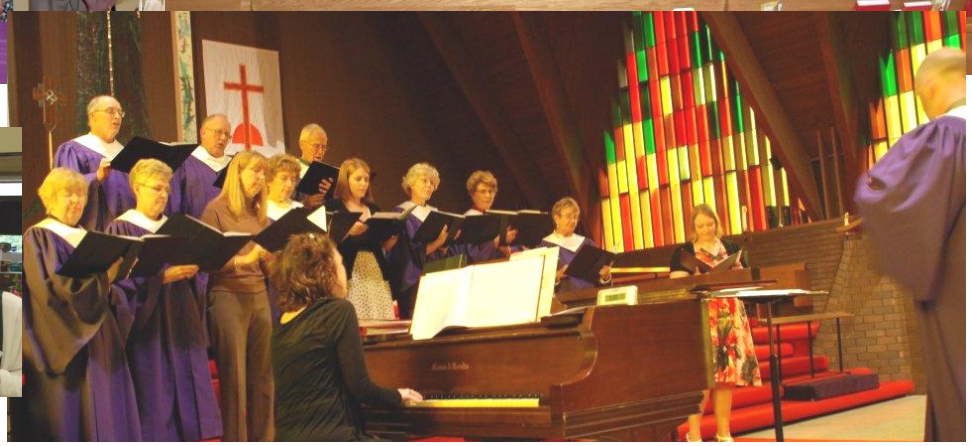
Registration Online at www.milwaukielutheran.org or pick up at church. Contact Brian Brown @ 503-653-0250 or brianmlc@comcast.net for more information.

Welcome New Members

John, Migon, and Stephanie Fleming; Marcia McClanahan, Rachel, Thomas and Ava Rushing. Not pictured: Sally Boozer

MLC Family Pics





Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who helped to make this year's Easter Breakfast a success: John Collinsworth, Stan Wax, Nathan Wax, Steve Tressler, Jerry Prosa, and Glen Hess. Also a big thanks to Brian Brown and the high school students who set up tables, helped in the kitchen and out on the floor.

A special thank s to Evelyn Knutsen for donating the pancake mix and syrup for the breakfast. And to Nest Best Eggs for donating 45 dozen eggs.

A big thank you to the congregation for being so generous in their donation for the breakfast. Overall, we took in just over $700. This will help the students going to Holden Village and to the summer Mission Trip to Belize.
~Elmer Lampe

A special thanks to ALL who donated funds toward the new wooden covers made for the fellowship hall…and to Andy Quale, Bob Lease and Barbara Johnson imagining them, creating them and painting them.
~Cheryl Ragnone and Sue Prosa

The Worship Ministry Team would like to thank Maya and Owen and the Vocal Choir and Kari Liebert and the Bell Choir for the beautiful afternoon Concert on May 22. Many wonderful, encouraging comments were heard.
~Dolores Vilstrup, chair

Thank you to everyone who sent me Get Well cards, called me to see how I was doing, visited me in the hospital and prayed for me when I was sick these last 7 weeks. It was very appreciated.
~Shirley Meyer

Prayers

Marta G, Grace A, April R, Earl J, Trudy H, Barbara C, Marilyn D, Myra C, Dick P, Vi H, Palmer L, children in crisis, Marilyn K, Audrey M, David S, Todd K, Ernie R, Sarah and Peter B and family, Faith C, Darlene, Doris B, Bethany H, Bob S, Andre B, Wally R., Doug F., Leona M., Richard McC., Carl and Jean A.

The Grieving: Stan, Jo, Nicole, Nathan and Natalie on the death of Stan's mother.

General Prayers: The President of the United States and our elected officials, the people of Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Israel, Afghanistan, Liberia, Sudan, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Somalia, New Zealand, Australia, Japan. All people around the world in military service for their country. The South as it recovers from flooding. The Midwest as it recovers from tornadoes.

For those serving Christ around the world: Marian Hungerford-Cameroon; Pastor Steven Ray-China; Our new missionary couple: Pastor Brian and Kristen Konhol-Republic of South Africa

Light News Deadline

Submissions due by June 15 at noon. Please submit news items to editor@milwaukielutheran.org or place in the "mailbox" on Sheryl Ann's office door.

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Leadership Council

Greg Jenks.....President
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Tom Giese.....Treasurer
Cindy Dunn.....Advocate
Connie Jackle.....Advocate
Shirley Meyer.....Advocate
Lisaana Otter.....Advocate
Andy Quale.....Advocate

We're part of the ELCA

Church Staff

Janelle Aldrich-Dale ..... Interim Pastor
Brian Brown .....Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Sheryl Ann Waage.....Administrative Assistant
Maya Story.....Pianist/Organist
Owen James.....Choir Director/Contemporary Music Director
Kari Liebert.....Volunteer Bell Choir Director
Carolyn Schoenemann ..... Bookkeeper
Patty Shilling.....Volunteer Parish Nurse

Milwaukie Lutheran Pre-School

Phone: 503.659.9881
Barbara Johnson ..... Preschool Administrator

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.